Torres backs review of federal Antiquities Act PAGE 3
Hocog claims legislative immunity. PAGE 5

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVII, Issue No. 87
www.saipantribune.com | WEDNESDAY MAY 3, 2017 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune
75¢

3 robberies in 3 days

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Poker arcade, two groups of tourists robbed

A man armed with an axe robbed a poker arcade in Kagman 3 and fled on a bicycle while two men armed with a knife and a gun robbed two groups of tourists in separate incidents in Marpi. The three robberies happened over the weekend and on Monday.

In the poker arcade robbery, the suspect ran off with an undetermined amount of cash from the KH Poker in Kagman 3, said acting police spokesman Sgt. Jason Tarkong. Police recovered the suspect's axe, some cash, and the bicycle used as a getaway vehicle.

The suspect was described as

See ROBBERIES on Page 4

Man in car chase gets 9 years in prison

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An ex-convict who led police officers in a 40-minute car chase that ended in him crashing his car pleaded guilty on Monday and was sentenced to the maximum term of nine years in prison.

Vincent San Nicolas Norita, 32, pleaded guilty to a total of 18 traffic offenses.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho sentenced him to nine years imprisonment, to be served day for day without probation. Norita was given credit for three

See MAN on Page 4

Ogumoro guilty of 2 corruption charges

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
Defense counsel Mark B. Hanson gestures as he talks with his client, former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio T. Ogumoro, in the parking lot of the Judiciary Complex in Susupe yesterday afternoon. Ogumoro was found guilty of two corruption charges and acquitted of four other charges.

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ex-DPS deputy chief acquitted of 4 charges

Ambrosio T. Ogumoro was found guilty yesterday of two corruption charges but was acquitted of four other charges.

After less than five hours, six Superior Court jurors unanimously found Ogumoro guilty of theft by deception but not guilty of theft by

See OGUMORO on Page 4

JOB FAIR ERWIN ENCINARES
The annual Northern Marianas College Career Fair at the Saipan World Resort was filled with job hunters darting from table to table, submitting applications to various employers.

INSIDE

LOCAL
Tanapag Middle School celebrates Teacher Appreciation Week.
PAGE 7

BUSINESS
Businesses around the U.S. say they are struggling to find seasonal help.
PAGE 14

ASIA
A U.S.-based human rights group slams Philippine leader Rodrigo Duterte.
PAGE 16

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

15 years of hooking students on mock trial

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kbautista1222@gmail.com
REPORTER

Over the last 14 years, the non-competitive middle school mock trial program has been growing stronger and the 15th iteration of the program last Saturday at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe was no exception.

"It is now one of our signature student programs," said Northern Marianas Humanities Council executive director Scott Russell.

The council established the program to prepare middle school students for the competitive mock trials that are offered once students reach high school.

According to Russell, the non-competitive mock trial program introduces middle school students to the basic concepts of mock trial without the pressure of winning.

Brian Flaherty, who has been an attorney coach for two years now, has always volunteered because he enjoys mentoring children in the ways of law. Flaherty said he has gained nothing but self-fulfillment and joy in seeing the students he coaches grow in the program.

Saipan Community School students pose for a photo with their attorney coaches last Saturday at the non-competitive mock trial program held at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe.
KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

According to Flaherty, the students don't just learn basic court lingo and courtroom knowledge.

"Mock trial is an opportunity for students at this age level to gain confidence as well in speaking in front of a crowd and in front of an audience," said Flaherty.

At such a young age, students don't usually have the opportunity to stand before a court justice and defend their case. Mock trial offers these students that opportunity to develop not only speaking skills but critical thinking skills, too, he said.

Mock trial is all about coming up with a solution and defending that, according to Flaherty.

A mock trial participant from the Francisco Mediola Sablan Middle School, Elisha Posadas, has always had the passion for law—how it works, how it flows, the lingo—and she wanted to experience it all herself. Mock trial gave her that. After her participation, Posadas was thrilled and plans to join again once she reaches high school.

Humanities Council program officer Eulalia Arriola said the program gets smoother and smoother every year.

"This year, we've really strengthened our partnership with the court, coaches, and parents. They have been really supportive and we have really been more in sync…this has been the smoothest one in the past years," said Arriola.

SCHEDULE YOUR WELL - WOMAN VISIT TODAY!

Annual Well-Woman EXAMINATION

Top reasons why you should have an annual well-woman examination

Birth Control
Learn about choosing the right birth control method for you. Some examples include the birth control pill, intrauterine device (IUD), patch, condom, or implant.

Cancer Screening
Learn more about breast cancer, colon cancer, or other types of cancer.

Vaccinations
Get vaccinations against the flu, human papillomavirus (HPV), and more.

Health Screening
Get screened for high blood pressure, diabetes, bone density for osteoporosis, and more.

Depression Screening
Depression is a common but serious illness. Depression can be mild, moderate, or severe. To diagnose depression, your obstetrician–gynecologist or other health care provider will discuss your symptoms, how often they occur, and how severe they are.

Sexually Transmitted Infections Screening
Sexually transmitted infections (STIs), such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, and genital herpes, are infections that are spread by sexual contact.

Concerns About Reproductive Health
Discuss concerns regarding reproductive health, including pain or changes in hormones or interest.

Weight Control
Learn about body mass index (BMI), exercise, obesity, diet, surgery, and health problems associated with being overweight.

Issues With Your Menstrual Period
Discuss premenstrual syndrome (PMS), painful periods, your first period, heavy bleeding, or irregular periods.

Preconception Counseling
If you are planning to become pregnant, it is a good idea to have preconception counseling. Your obstetrician gynecologist or health care provider will ask about your diet and lifestyle, your medical and family history, medications you take, and any past pregnancies.

Other Reasons
Get help with menopause symptoms, urinary incontinence, getting pregnant, or relationship problems.

For more information please contact:
Division of Public Health Services
Maternal & Child Health Bureau
P.O. Box 5000409 CK, MP 9695
Tel. No: (670) 664-8705 • Fax No: (670) 236-8700

"This ad has been brought to you by the CNMI Maternal and Child Health Bureau through funds by the US Department of Health & Human Services."

Tourism Topics

A bi-weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

Tourism is everybody's business.

The Marianas
Saipan | Tinian | Rota

"See My Marianas" Graphic Design Contest

Are you a young person interested in promoting The Marianas? Join the "See My Marianas" Graphic Design Contest and show off your favorite places!

SEE MY MARIANAS
The white sands and crystal clear waters of Managaha will captivate your soul. This special place is also a marine conservation area.

The Marianas Visitors Authority and Marianas Tourism Education Council are holding a Tourism Month 2017 Graphic Arts Design Contest for CNMI students in grades 6-12. Submissions must be an original digital design with the words "See My Marianas" featuring a site/location in The Marianas that the artist would encourage people to visit.

The deadline to submit entries via Facebook or email is May 12, 2017.
Prizes begin at $150 cash + $150 Taste tokens for 1st place, with prizes for 1st-5th place.

For contest guidelines, visit www.mymaianas.com or contact MVA Community Projects Assistant Demalyn Pagarao at dpagarao@mymarianas.com or 670.664.3210 for more information.

1976-2016 40 Years
www.mymarianas.com

Torres backs review of federal Antiquities Act

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who witnessed President Donald Trump sign an executive order mandating a review of the Antiquities Act, said there is a need to review the law to ensure that it upholds its original intent.

Torres, who spoke last week before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources on House Resolution 339 in Washington, D.C., said that Trump's EO aims to make sure that people in areas designated as national monuments would benefit.

"I support the President's decision to review these declarations to ensure they uphold their intents and provide benefits to the people who must live with the long term effects of their [national monuments] presence," said Torres.

Torres was among those invited for Trump's signing of the EO last week, along with American Samoa Delegate Aumua Amata Radewagen.

"It was an honor to be invited to join President Trump, Vice President Mike Pence, and Department of the Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to the signing of the Antiquities Act Executive Order," Torres said.

The Marianas plays host to one national monument, the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument. Former President George W. Bush signed Presidential Proclamation 8335 in January 2009 that created the Marianas monument.

Torres said the CNMI has yet to see the fruits of that monument designation but was promised it would reap benefits.

"The people of the CNMI were promised great things from the creation of the Marianas Trench Monument and none of those benefits have ever materialized," he said.

Then-President Theodore Roosevelt signed into law Public Law 59-209 or the Antiquities Act of 1906. It gives presidents the authority, by presidential proclamation, to turn federal lands into national monuments. A number of presidents have used the act in creating national monuments in order to protect significant natural, cultural, or scientific features of a particular designated area or land. It often creates controversy and opposition.

Trump's EO gives Zinke the task to review all proclamations and designations or expansions of designations made under the Antiquities Act from Jan. 1, 1996, to the present.

Zinke would study if, among others, adequate public meetings and coordination were held before creating or expanding a national monument.

Former President Barack Obama also used his executive powers in designating millions of acres of land and water under federal control.

Grief support group to meet on May 4

The Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, May 4, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families in the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive.

For more information, e-mail tcfSaipan@gmail.com or call Jill Derickson (989-9821) or Donna Krum (783-1900). To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionatefriends.org. ***(PR)***

ARMATECH
PABX Telephone System Services and Maintenance

Tel: (670) 234-8895 • Fax: (670) 234-8894
Mobile: (670) 287-5525 / (670) 783-8895

Another $5000 instant lottery Winner!

CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs. Borja who won $5,000 instantly playing "Break The Bank" on NMSA's new Instant Scratchies $2 game at Rising Supermarket.

For only $2 you can win up to $10,000 instantly. Get your tickets now!

Kilili: HR 339 will help skilled workers

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) said that his bill, House Resolution 339, would help the workers with special skills, particularly nurses, in the CNMI that would be affected by the numerical limit of the CNMI-Only Transitional Nonimmigrant Worker visa program.

Sablan was among those who testified in last week's Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing in connection with HR 339. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Island Training Solutions proprietor Jim Arenovski also testified in the hearing, presided over by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska).

The bill, if it becomes a law, would provide temporary relief by adding 2,002 CW1 permits to the current fiscal year. The numerical limit was reached early in FY 2017 on Oct. 14, for the second consecutive time. The CNMI faced the same situation in FY 2016.

Thirty-six staff at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., 31 of whom are nurses, were among those that were affected by the CW1 numerical cap. United States Citizenship and Immigration Services reduced the cap by one from 12,999 to 12,998 in FY 2017.

Sablan said that medical professionals are among those that are affected by the CW1 cap. "They are medical professionals working at our only hospital and at public and private clinics."

"They are workers with technical skills and firm specific experience built up over time that many of our local businesses rely upon. They are not easily or quickly replaced. So my bill provides 2,002 additional one-year permits, available for the rest of this fiscal year."

"This will help the hospital and those local businesses that are going to be short of workers just when business opportunity is growing—not the situation we want businesses to be in," added Sablan.

Other causes

Sablan said HR 339 would also address the influx of Chinese construction workers and filling the lack of skilled U.S.-eligible workers.

He added that HR 339 would bar the use of the CW1 permit for temporary construction workers. "Federal law already provides for an unlimited number of H-2B visas to bring workers to the Marianas for temporary work. HR 339 would force employers to do so."

The bill, if signed into law by President Trump, would also increase the fee collected from $150 to $200. The money collected is used to train U.S. workers for them to take over the jobs once held by foreign employees.

"HR 339 would also force all employers to pay more to train U.S. workers to take over jobs now held by foreign workers—our ultimate goal. To date, over $9 million has been collected and we have added 2,000 workers to the [local] labor force."

"But we need to train more and we need to train faster. HR 339 increased the fee from $150 to $200, so we have the resources to do that training."

Sablan said he is hopeful the Senate would immediately act on his bill. "It is urgent that the Senate act because the lack of foreign workers, on whom businesses are dependent, will immediately hurt the economy."

"[HR 339] includes permanent provisions that will help ensure we do not have this same problem again."

OGUMORO

From Page 1

unlawful taking.

Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo, who decided on the misdemeanor charges, found Ogumoro guilty of misconduct in public office, not guilty of two counts of removal of government property, and not guilty of one count of misconduct in public office.

Ogumoro, a former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner, appeared calm standing next to his counsel, Mark B. Hanson, as a court staff read the jurors' verdict.

Others in the courtroom were Ogumoro's common-law wife, former police officer Katherine Manglona, family members and friends.

Ogumoro will be sentenced on Sept. 12, 2017 at 1:30pm.

The two charges that Ogumoro was found guilty of carry a total maximum prison sentence of six years imprisonment, according to assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley. Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas assisted Baisley at the trial.

"We are pleased with this result," Baisley told reporters.

Baisley said that Attorney General Edward Manibusan has prioritized investigating and prosecuting crimes involving corruption and misconduct in public office.

"Securing these kinds of convictions sends a message that our office takes these cases seriously, and that the people of the Commonwealth do as well," he said.

The prosecutor said that cases might not always progress as fast as some people might like. In this case for example, he noted that Ogumoro was charged two years ago, and that they were on the eve of trial one year ago, it had to be continued due to the unavailability of a key witness, and then-Superior Court associate Judge David A. Wiseman retired so it was continued again.

"But these cases are a priority, and the Attorney General's Office is constantly working on investigating them and preparing them for trial," Baisley said.

Baisley and Barcinas said the jurors sat attentively through a weeklong trial that focused extensively on receipts and invoices—"not the most exciting stuff in the world."

Baisley and Barcinas said the investigators, from both DPS and at the Office of the Public Auditor, "put together an excellent case."

Ogumoro and his counsel, Hanson, refused to comment.

The prosecution called to the stand a total of nine witnesses. The defense called three witnesses.

The trial of Ogumoro and his co-defendant, Herman M. Manglona, started last April 24.

A second amended information charged Ogumoro with eight counts relating to theft by deception, misconduct in public office, conspiracy to commit theft by deception, removal of government property, and theft by unlawful taking.

The second amended information also charged Manglona with conspiracy to commit theft by deception and receiving stolen property.

Last April 27, Govendo dismissed the charges against Manglona.

According to the allegations, Ogumoro brought a 1995 Toyota Tercel that belonged to DPS to a shop to be repaired using DPS funds totaling $2,500 in 2012 and then sold the vehicle as "scrap" for only $50 to Manglona.

Manglona is the brother of Ogumoro's common-law wife, Katherine Manglona. Katherine Manglona was originally included as a co-defendant in the case, but in November 2015 the OAG dropped the case against her.

The prosecution said Ogumoro instructed a DPS staff to bring a DPS desktop to a shop for repairs using DPS funding in the amount of $276. The computer along with a laptop, printer, and other DPS property were later used in the office of True North Bar & Grill, which is owned by Ogumoro.

In January 2016, a Superior Court jury found Ogumoro guilty of conspiracy to commit theft of services, and theft of services pertaining to the same incident of shielding then-attorney general Edward Buckingham from being served with penal summons in August 2012.

Wiseman also found Ogumoro guilty of five counts of misconduct in public office, one count of obstructing justice: Interference with a law enforcement officer or witness, and one count of criminal coercion.

On March 30, 2016, Wiseman slapped Ogumoro with a one-year prison sentence. The defendant started serving the prison term on April 13, 2016.

In June 2016, the Department of Corrections, however, granted Ogumoro's request to avail of DOC's work-release program.

ROBBERIES

From Page 1

about 5'9" tall, dark skinned, and had curly hair. He was wearing a black long-sleeved sweater with a hood, a black cloth covering his face, a pair of sunglasses, and a pair of blue jeans.

Police responded to the robbery incident at KH Poker on Saturday at 6:04am and learned from witnesses that the suspect came into the arcade and shouted, "You guys, relax" at a male customer.

The suspect then used the axe to break into the cashier's room, prompting the cashier to hide in the bathroom. The robber then walked out of the establishment after taking some cash.

Witnesses saw the suspect flee the area on a bicycle going north on Gaogao Drive. Police recovered the axe, bicycle, and some cash along Gaogao Drive.

In the Marpi robbery case, two men, including one armed with a knife, robbed a 24-year-old Asian woman and her boyfriend of cash and other items at the Last Command Post on Friday afternoon.

Tarkong said the victims lost a bag that contained $60 cash, two snorkels, two swim masks, a pair of black slippers, a white Wi-Fi modem, credit cards, and identification cards.

The first suspect was described as possibly a local male, about 5'5" tall, medium built, and had short curly black hair and stained teeth.

The second suspect was not described.

Police responded at 3:31pm to the incident at the parking lot of Last Command Post and found out that the woman was in the passenger seat of their rental car in the west parking lot and her boyfriend was taking pictures when the incident happened.

Two men approached the car while the woman was on her phone. One suspect opened the front passenger door where the victim was sitting, pointed a knife at her, demanded money, and grabbed her bag.

The suspects then fled aboard a white car.

In the second Marpi robbery case, five Asian female tourists were victimized at Banzai Cliff on Monday morning.

Tarkong said items stolen were over $1,200 in cash, identification cards, a Chanel handbag, cell phones, and bank cards.

One suspect was described as a heavyset male wearing a pink shirt and armed with a knife. The second suspect was described as a skinny male armed with a rifle.

Tarkong said police responded to the robbery incident at Banzai Cliff at 6:53am and learned that the five tourists arrived in two car rentals—a yellow Camaro and a pink Mustang—at the area at 6:30am to take pictures.

A red Toyota car then drove up and two male suspects came out and threatened the tourists with a knife and rifle. The tourists surrendered their purses. The robbers then poked holes into the tires of the victims' cars before fleeing the scene.

Tarkong said that no one was injured.

The Department of Public Safety and the NMI Crime Stoppers are seeking the public's help for information about the suspects in the three robbery cases.

MAN

From Page 1

months and 12 days of time served. He was ordered to pay a $250 fine and $25 court costs.

The judge noted that Norita has prior convictions for robbery and burglary.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark served as Norita's counsel. Assistant attorney general J. Robert Glass Jr. appeared for the government.

Last December, the Office of the Attorney General dismissed without prejudice the criminal charges against Norita over that car chase that ended when his car hit an embankment and overturned in Koblerville in the evening of Dec. 9, 2016. Dismissed without prejudice means the government may re-file the case in the future.

The OAG subsequently filed the traffic charges against Norita over the car chase incident and theft of a vehicle.

According to court documents, on Dec. 1, 2016, on Saipan, Norita stole a vehicle owned by Jeju Airlines.

On Dec. 9, 2016, Norita operated a car on the highways at dangerous speeds while eluding police officers, disobeying traffic signs, failing to signal, and driving with a willful or wanton disregard to the safety of persons or property which caused an accident.

The defendant left the scene while in a car that he tampered with by removing the license plate and replacing it with a license plate belonging to a different vehicle.

Norita stated at the change of plea hearing that he drove the car over 100 miles per hour from Chalan Laulau to Garapan, to Tanapag, back to Garapan, Chinatown, Chalan Laulau, and to Koblerville where he eventually crashed.

Norita stated that he drove on the highways as well as into the residential areas and that the way he was driving was dangerous to people on the road

Norita admitted that he was trying to elude the police.

The car chase went viral after a bystander took a video of a police officer, who appeared to be hitting Norita repeatedly with a baton or stick as he lay on the ground.

Police said that Norita's car, a white 2011 Toyota Yaris four-door sedan with license plate ADZ-841, was speeding and nearly hit several pedestrians during the pursuit that happened in the evening last Dec. 9.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services disclosed that the driver, Norita, stated he had pain on the back of his right shoulder blade.

DFEMS said Norita, who was uncooperative, also sustained three small cuts on the forehead and a half-inch cut on the left leg.

DPS had previously stated that it is investigating the police officer's alleged beating of Norita.

Hocog claims legislative immunity

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saying he was acting then as a Rota senator, Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog insists he is immune to the lawsuit filed by Japanese investor Takahisa Yamamoto against him and the owners of cargo ship M/V *Luta*.

In his response to Yamamoto's lawsuit, Hocog claimed legislative immunity, saying the actions alleged were undertaken in his capacity as senator.

In Hocog's two-page answer, his lawyer, F. Randall Cunliffe, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to dismiss the case in its entirety.

Cunliffe also argued that the complaint does not identify claims that give the federal court jurisdiction over them. The lawyer also denied other allegations in the lawsuit.

Last month, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona denied Hocog's motion to dismiss Yamamoto's first amended complaint against him and owners of M/V *Luta*.

Manglona said that Hocog's second motion to dismiss raises defenses that were available to him when he filed his first motion to dismiss.

On Oct. 25, 2016, Yamamoto sued M/V *Luta*, Luta Mermaid LLC and six other defendants, including Hocog, alleging beach of contract and fraud.

On Nov. 17, 2016, Hocog filed a motion to dismiss Yamamoto's complaint for failure to plead sufficient facts to sustain a claim of fraud.

In response, on Dec. 1, 2016, Yamamoto amended his complaint. The court then determined that Hocog's motion to dismiss was moot.

Within hours of the court's order, Hocog filed another motion to dismiss the first amended complaint. He asserted that the first amended complaint was not verified.

On March 7, 2017, the court denied the motion to dismiss the first amended complaint.

Last March 22, Hocog filed the motion to dismiss to first amended complaint.

$4M headed to Marianas schools

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Marianas schools will receive more than $4 million in new money in the coming school year, as a result of a funding formula change by Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP). The new formula will go into effect along with the spending agreement for the federal government that congressional negotiators reached over the weekend.

The House of Representatives is expected to vote Wednesday on the agreement, which funds the U.S. government through the end of the fiscal year. The Senate should follow suit by Friday. The agreement increases by $550 million over last year the appropriation for low-income elementary and secondary school students nationwide. And this increase triggers the new allocation for insular area schools that Sablan included in Every Student Succeeds Act in the last Congress. The funding increase for Marianas schools should now continue year-after-year.

"Increased funding for our schools has always been my number one priority," Sablan said. "That is why I became a member of the House Education Committee, when I was first elected to Congress.

"We had to work very hard to get this formula change for island schools enacted. In fact, it was the only change in the funding for low-income student populations nationwide that was allowed.

"Now, with approval of increased funding overall for economically disadvantaged students, my new formula for how much federal money goes to the island schools will go into effect."

According to the Congressional Research Service, Marianas schools are estimated to receive $11 million in fiscal year 2017 under the new formula, $4 million more than in FY 2016 and a substantial 63 -percent increase.

In addition to the funding for low-income students from Kindergarten through high school, the new spending agreement also increases funding for low-income college students through Pell grants, another Sablan priority. The maximum Pell grant will now be $5,920 for the 2017-2018 school year.

The appropriation agreement also reinstates summer semester funding for Pell grants that should provide, on average, $1,650 to students who choose year-round schooling.

Water infrastructure

Water infrastructure in the Marianas will continue to benefit from the funding formula first altered when Sablan came to office in 2009. Language increasing the set-aside for insular areas to 1.5 percent under both the Safe Drinking Water and Clean Water funds remains in the FY 2017 spending bill now agreed to, and funding amounts are held steady.

The Marianas should receive approximately $6.4 million for drinking water and sewage systems this year, bringing the total water infrastructure funding during Sablan's time in office to $65 million.

Without the formula change the Marianas would only receive about $1.2 million.

Also up are technical assistance funds for the Office of Insular Affairs. The Maintenance Assistance Fund component increases by $2.9 million to $4 million. The Coral Reef Initiative goes up $250,000 to $1.25 million. And there is an extra $500,000 for the Empowering Insular Communities program, which is helping the insular areas become more energy independent, bringing total funding to $3.5 million.

The technical assistance fund used for discretionary grants also increased, by $1.3 million to $16.8 million.

"The total $5 million in additional technical assistance of all kinds for the insular areas is a milestone," Sablan said, "after many years of belt-tightening." ***(PR)***

2 men arrested in separate domestic violence cases

A man allegedly beat up his wife and threatened to kill their two children, while another man hit his wife in the head and threatened to stab her in separate domestic violence incidents on Saipan last week.

Alejandro Laniyo Tebit, 28, was arrested for assault and battery and disturbing the peace, while Aaron Joseph Satur Rabauliman, 38, was arrested for assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, assault, and disturbing the peace.

At a hearing on Monday, a $5,000 cash bail was imposed on Tebit; a $10,000 cash bail was imposed on Rabauliman. Preliminary hearing for Tebit and Rabauliman will be on May 9 at 1:30pm.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit was appointed as counsel for both defendants. Assistant attorney general Jonathan Wilberscheid appeared for the government.

According to police, Tebit confronted his wife around midnight of April 22 soon after she arrived home after a night out with her sister. An argument ensued. Tebit then alleged punched his wife several times and allegedly strangled her and pulled her hair.

Last Friday, the victim received a phone call from Tebit, saying he would kill their two children. That prompted her to ask for police assistance. Officers retrieved the youngest child unharmed. Police arrested Tebit that day.

In Rabauliman's case, a woman called police last Friday and reported that her husband, Rabauliman, hit her head, held her down on the bed and threatened to kill her. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

A little Las Vegas style in paradise.
WELCOME
TO Fabulous
SAIPAN VEGAS
The Best Player Promotions on Saipan!
DAILY PLAYER CASH DRAWS
$1.99 PLAYER BUFFET DINNER
MIDNIGHT MEGA DRAWS $500 CASH PRIZES ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
INTRODUCING FREE "MIDNIGHT" SNACK: HOTDOG AND DRINK EVERY NIGHT.
Come Play Today!
Live Entertainment – Friday & Saturday nights
Location: Middle Road (next to McDonald's) • Hours: 12:00pm – 4:00am (Monday – Thursday)
24 hours (Friday & Saturday)

ARMATECH
PABX Telephone System Services and Maintenance
Tel: (670) 234-8895 • Fax: (670) 234-8894
Mobile: (670) 287-5525 / (670) 783-8895

Mount Carmel School
1952
SAIPAN • NORTHERN MARIANAS
Registration for SY 2017-2018
Early Bird Registration Fee
$200 per child (normally $400)
if registration fee is paid by May 5
Early Bird Discount extended to May 5!
Family Discounts*
$600 off for 2nd child • $1,000 off for 3rd child • $1,500 off for 4th child
*Available only to parents and legal guardians of children
$750 (per student) Scholarship & Financial Aid Packages Available
Application Forms Available May 31
$50 Application Fee Waived
For applications completed online
JOIN THE LEGACY
BECOME A KNIGHT
For more information, call 234-6184 or visit www.mountcarmelsaipan.com.

$10,000 from Century Tours for HANMI golf tourney

Perennial sponsor Century Tours has stepped up to the tee again this year to offer $10,000 for a hole-in-one winner at the 16th Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament on June 24, 2017.

The tournament is slated for Laolao Bay Golf & Resort west course and is open to the first 144 paid registrants. Century Tours is one of a growing list of sponsors offering cash, cars, and other prizes for the winners.

"We are very grateful to Century Tours for their long commitment to supporting the HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament," said tournament chair Takahiro Omori of Mariana Resort & Spa. "We are looking forward to a great tournament this year."

From the proceeds of its 2016 tournament, HANMI has donated to the Northern Marianas Trades Institute, Saipan Senior Advisory Council, Marianas Tourism Education Council, Saipan Marathon, and more.

Registration forms are now available at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Coral Ocean Golf Resort, and Mariana Country Club. Early bird tournament fee is $120 for payments received by 5pm, June 16. The fee includes green fee and the awards banquet. The fee increases to $140 after the early bird deadline. For an additional $30, players may also compete for optional play prizes, including accurate drive circle, nearest of the pin, and accurate drive line. The tournament will start at 7am.

For more information, contact Omori at omori@marianaresort.com or 322-0770. ***(PR)***

HANMI

Century Tours operation manager Rain Bao, fifth from left, and Century Tours business development officer Owen Ji, second from left, present a $10,000 hole-in-one prize to Das Krishnan of the 16th Annual HANMI Charity Golf Tournament. The tournament will be held at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort west course on June 24, 2017.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

P&A Corporation

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. P&A Corporation is proposing to renovate an existing building for guest rooms, and to construct a new structure for warehouse use to store supplies. This use is classified as "Motel" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot Nos. 550-New-15 & 550-New-16 in San Antonio. It is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Date: May 17, 2017
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 16, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Unity Sense (CNMI), LLC dba Heaven II Hotel

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Unity Sense (CNMI), LLC dba Heaven II Hotel is proposing to occupy four existing structures to operate a hotel. This use is classified as "Hotel" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Tract No. 22667-2-R1 in Capitol Hill. This area is zoned as Rural.

Date: May 17, 2017
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 16, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Yong Shun Corporation dba Chang Ming Car Wash

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Yong Shun Corporation dba Chang Ming Car Wash is proposing to operate a car wash facility. This use is classified as "Vehicle Repair, General" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 004 D 54 in Garapan. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Date: May 17, 2017
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 16, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Skywalker Holdings Company, LLC dba Skywalker Holdings Staff Housing

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Skywalker Holdings Company, LLC dba Skywalker Holdings Staff Housing is proposing to construct and assemble 3 (three) Pre-Fabricated structures for Institutional Residential Use. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. (Part of) EA 222-1 in Papago. It is zoned as Rural.

Date: May 17, 2017
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 16, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Seatimes Company Ltd.

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Seatimes Company Ltd. is proposing to occupy two existing buildings to operate a Bed and Breakfast. This use is classified as "Bed and Breakfast" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 128 D 24 in Garapan. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

Date: May 17, 2017
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 16, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone)

for

Fermina G. Shimizu

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Fermina G. Shimizu is requesting to rezone Lot 1734New-4-R2 in Chalan Kiya from "Rural" to "Mixed Commercial" zoning district to construct and operate a warehouse facility.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: May 17, 2017
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 17, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

TMS students show love for their teachers

In celebration of Teacher Appreciation Week, Tanapag Middle School is having this article published in honor of the school's teachers.

Teacher: NICOLE SABLAN
Subject: Language Arts
Grade: 6-7

Dear Ms. Nicole: I would like to thank you for being a wonderful teacher. You are considerate, hardworking, and try your best to make us have fun when we learn. You listen to our ideas and problems and give us great advice when we need help. You are thoughtful and can tell when one of your students is feeling down. You have the instincts of a parent, are hardworking, kind, and smart. You make sure no one is falling behind and you challenge us to improve our skills. You are a teacher of many strengths and talents. You are independent and intelligent. You try your hardest to get the job done each and every day. You push us because you want the best for us. I wish most teachers are like you. You are truly one of a kind. To us, you are irreplaceable. You are not just a teacher at Tanapag Middle School. You are part of the Tanapag family. Happy Teacher Appreciation Week from your Tataga family!!

Written By: Jimmy Joe Marquez, 8th Grade, Tanapag Middle School

Teacher: BEATRICE FATIALOFA
Subject: Fine Arts
Grade: 6-8

Ms. Beatrice is a wonderful teacher! I've known her since elementary school and I've come to realize her strengths. One is the Lord. She will put Him first in any situation, bad or good. Ms. Beatrice strives and fights to provide the best for her students. She teaches art and her students look forward to going to her class. I enjoy her class because it is fun and also because she shows us that art generates a love of learning and creativity.

Where do I start? I'm very lucky to have you, Ms. Beatrice! I've known you for five years, and I can honestly say that you are a really good teacher. You lead us students to the right path and talk to us often about where we should go and what we should do instead of just dropping out of school. You are amazing and wonderful to me. Thank you, Ms. Beatrice, for helping to guide me in the right direction, and helping me through my ups and downs and struggles. Love you! Happy Teacher Appreciation Week from your Tataga family!

Written By: Francisco Aldan, 8th Grade, Tanapag Middle School

Teacher: ELUENE BAZA
Subject: Social Studies
Grade: 6-7

Every teacher has his or her own technique, routine, and way of teaching, but it was Ms. Baza's character that I have become fonder of. Growing up with Ms. Baza as my teacher, she was always one who stood out with spirit and enthusiasm. She was one that showed us there was more to life after high school. Ms. Baza was there every step of the way through elementary and middle school. Every typical teacher like Ms. Baza was fun and creative in their own way, but Ms. Baza was the most tolerant of all. She distinguished right and wrong and exhibited impressive guidance toward us students. She comes to school walking with pride and enters the classroom with passion and attitude. While Ms. Baza is teaching, she doesn't let any negative effects interfere with her day. Ms. Baza inspires students to pursue productive and innovative careers. She is one of the most straight up teachers I know, teaching us lessons in life and how to make right choices to succeed. When I am in high school, I will surely miss the memorable moments I had with Ms. Baza. Happy Teacher Appreciation Week from your Tataga family!

Written by: Froilan Camacho, 8th Grade, Tanapag Middle School

Teacher: ACELIA DELACRUZ
Subject: Career Exploration
Grade: 6-8

For Teacher Appreciation Week, I would love to appreciate Mrs. Acelia DelaCruz. Mrs. DelaCruz is one of the most thoughtful, humble, and encouraging teachers I know.

Continued on Next Page

BUBBA GUMP
SHRIMP CO.
RESTAURANT & MARKET
NOW HIRING!
We are looking for some AMAZING individuals to join our Bubba Gump family! Work for one of the most famous franchises in the world.
SERVERS AND RETAIL ASSISTANTS
Customers First
TRIPLE J
We Offer Competitive Salary and Benefits.
Apply online:
www.triplejsaipan.com/employment-application/

WHAT IS THE FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM?

Family planning services help women and men decide if and when they want to have children and help plan for healthier pregnancies.

WHAT SERVICES ARE PROVIDED?

- Birth control Counseling and Methods including:
  - The Implant (Nexplanon)
  - IUD's (Liletta and Paragard)
  - The Depo Shot
  - Birth Control Pills
  - Natural Family Planning Methods
  - Condoms
  - Emergency Contraception (Plan B)
- Pregnancy Testing and Counseling
- Preconception Care (before you get pregnant)
- Basic Infertility Services for those trying to get pregnant
- STD testing and treatment
- Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening (Breast exam, PAP exam)
- Related referrals

HOW DO I PAY FOR FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES?

We accept both private insurance and Medicaid. If you don't have private insurance or Medicaid, you may be eligible for low or no cost services. Please give us a call for more information. No one is denied services, even if they can't pay.

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION AND RECEIVE SERVICES?

SAIPAN, call 234-8950 (ext. 3351);
TINIAN, call 433-9333;
ROTA, call 532-9461

Then ask for the Family Planning Program. or make an appointment at CHCC Women's Clinic or just walk in.

Hours are M-F from 8:00am to 4:00pm (excluding holidays)

CHCC Title X Family Planning Services • Hours: 8:00am to 4:00pm • Monday through Friday
Appointments and Walk-ins welcome • Phone: (670) 234-8950 ext. 3351
The CNMI Family Planning Program is funded by the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Population Affairs, Title X

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-024

KAILING DRIVE WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified construction firms for the Kailing Drive Waterline Replacement Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of abandoning the existing 4-inch waterline and replacing it with a new 4 inch C900 PVC pipe. Work will also consist of installing new fire hydrant and gate valve assemblies, reconnection of service laterals to the new water main and replacement of water meter assemblies. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **120 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $50.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **May 17, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-024, CUC Kailing Drive Waterline Replacement Project, Saipan",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 31 , 2017,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms.

Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **4:00 PM (ChST) on May 19, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Joel Puyat, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email joel.puyat@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Technician- via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-025

ISA DRIVE SEWER LINE EXTENSION PROJECT PART B

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified Construction firms for the Construction of the Isa Drive Sewer Line Extension Project Part B in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of new installation of new sewer mains, manholes, and drop manholes. The asphalt pavement restoration shall be completed by others. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications.

CUC requires the Project to be completed by August 15, 2017 pending the Department of Public Works ongoing road construction. It may be extended if the road construction experiences any delays in the vicinity of the sewer line extension. The contractor shall be allotted a minimum of 90 days to complete the work.

This project is funded by the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Capital Improvement Project thru the CNMI. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **May 3, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-17-025, Isa Drive Sewer Line Extension Part B"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 16, 2017,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on May 8, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org and to Travis Spaeth, CUC Project Engineer via email address travis.spaeth@cucgov.org .

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

From Page 7

She always puts her students first and brings joy to the classroom. Her time as my teacher has made me believe that you can learn and have fun at the same time. I know it is a big world out there but Mrs. DelaCruz has prepared my classmates and me for the future.

Mrs. DelaCruz uses different styles of learning to ensure that everyone understands what we are being taught. Mrs. DelaCruz has been a teacher for many years. She has also made an impact on many students' lives throughout her years as an educator. She brings joy to Tanapag Middle School with her presence and light. Mrs. Acelia DelaCruz is an amazing teacher and I am honored to appreciate her through this article. Happy Teacher Appreciation Week from your Tataga family!

Written by: Trinity Cruz, 8th Grade, Tanapag Middle School

Teacher: AMOR RABULIMAN
Subject: Math
Grade: 6-7

Teacher Appreciation Week is a very important time in the month of May. So, for this week, I am honored to appreciate Mrs. Amor Rabauliman. Mrs. Amor is very kind and a very understanding teacher. Throughout my three years as a student in Tanapag Middle School, I can see how much of an impact Mrs. Amor has made on my friends and fellow classmates. She is an amazing listener and has an amazing personality.

Mrs. Amor was my math teacher in sixth grade. I remember she had multiple activities to help us learn easier. Mrs. Amor has committed her time to the school system for quite a while. She has brought joy to many students' lives and to the staff as well with her determination to provide high quality instruction. She listens to students and she brings a sense of safety to us. So, for the month of May, I am proud to compose this article dedicated to you, our math teacher, Mrs. Amor Rabauliman. Happy Teacher Appreciation Week from your Tataga family!

Written by: Trinity Cruz, 8th Grade, Tanapag Middle School

Teacher: JOHANNA LIZAMA
Position: SPED teacher aide
Grade: 6-8

Ms. Johanna is a one-on-one teacher aide at TMS. As a teacher aide she is very reliable and dependable. Students like her because she laughs a lot and has made many friends since she began working this school year. Ms. Johanna is skilled at speaking other languages; one such language is Chuukese. She has made a great difference in our school by taking care of and helping students with their unique and special needs. She is a kind person with a beautiful smile. We are very appreciative of the decision Mrs. Johanna has made to choose education among other professions. It is a tough job, but Mrs. Johanna remains committed and determined to provide the best care to her student. The strengths that she has as an educator are being reliable, helping others, patience, and perseverance. Ms. Johanna, I see your hard work as an educator and I want to say, keep it up and Happy Teacher Week!

Written by: Michael Tomokane, 6th Grade, Tanapag Middle School

Rotary to donate $1,500 to 500 Sails

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kbautista1222@gmail.com
REPORTER

The Rotary Club of Saipan would be donating $1,500 to the 500 Sails organization. The decision was finalized at yesterday's meeting at the Giovanni's Restaurant of the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Saipan Rotary Club president Ivan Ilmov announced a vote amongst the Rotarians at the club's weekly meet on whether or not a donation to the 500 Sails organization was appealing to everyone. Ilmov was answered with a unanimous decision to donate to the organization.

500 Sails advocates for the preservation of the Northern Marianas indigenous heritage of traditional sailing.

500 Sails organization executive director Peter Perez shared a presentation at the Rotary Club meeting yesterday relating to the organization's goal and its cause.

According to Perez, the 500 Sails organization has a mission to re-connect modern day islanders to the traditions of ancient Chamorros and Carolinians—the tradition of manual sailing on locally made canoes.

According to Perez, the organization's cause promotes cultural health, cultural recreation, and an indigenous workforce. In his presentation, Perez said that in joining the 500 Sails program, a definite probability for better health could be attained.

Perez theorizes that the reason ancient Chamorros and Carolinians were able to live a long life was because of sailing and building canoes.

The 500 sails website gives interested Proa sailors a gist of what to expect from taking part in the program.

According the website, the program would strengthen Chamorro and Carolinian cultural identity in the Marianas.

The program would also create a fascinating canoe house destination for tourists and visitors in the Marianas.

In learning to manually sail, navigate, and build canoes, it would show the world a new and positive perspective of people who originated from the Northern Marianas.

The program also aims to instill a sense of community pride in the unique and fast *proas*. It is geared toward young people of the Marianas to get involved in positive and healthy activities.

The program also gives participants first-hand experience of aspects of ancient life in the Northern Marianas.

The organization also aims to create a close-knit community of traditional *proa* builders and sailors.

According to the 500 Sails organization website and Perez, the organization hopes to have 500 traditional *proas* out in the ocean.

HPO: MHS predated HPA

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kbautista1222@gmail.com
REPORTER

Human remains uncovered at Marianas High School led to the unsettling discovery that there was no law about preserving historical remains when the school was founded in 1969.

A recent construction project at the school led to the excavation of fragments of a human skeleton, causing a delay in the construction of a new cafeteria next to the MHS Gymnasium.

According to archaeologist James Pruitt at the Historic Preservation Office, the Commonwealth didn't have a preservation law until 1982, 13 years after the school was built.

Marianas High School was developed in 1969 before the historic preservation law was enacted. Because of this, there is no prior data on the land that the school was built on.

According to Pruitt, because MHS is the oldest institution of education in the Marianas, the office decided to leave the school grounds undisturbed, aside from periodically monitoring the school's grounds and the land surrounding the school.

Up until a few weeks ago, according to Pruitt, MHS decided to expand the school by building a new cafeteria. HPO representatives were present for the excavation and that's when the human remains were uncovered. HPO immediately put the project on hold until archaeologists could investigate the area further.

Pruitt said the office was just as surprised as the contractors they hired to dig up the site. The area was suspected to harbor ancient artifacts but that was only based on probability.

As of now, Pruitt and HPO are waiting for the archaeologists that the school will hire to further investigate the area. Only then will a plan be discussed between HPO, archaeologists, Indigenous Affairs Office, the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, politicians, etc. to come up with the best decision on how to handle the findings.

According to Pruitt, the cafeteria construction project will definitely resume but as to when, the office and the school have yet to find out.

ARFF, DFEMS win awards at Guam tilt

A competition in Guam ended with the CNMI Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting and the CNMI Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services each bringing home an award from the "Firefighter Muster 2017."

The Commonwealth Ports Authority's ARFF and the DFEMS each brought home a golden perpetual axe after besting the Andersen Air Force Fire Department, U.S. Navy Fire Department, Guam Fire Department, and the Guam Aircraft Rescue Fire Department.

According to ARFF's Cody Norita, it was the first time for both agencies to bring home the awards.

The competition was held at the Hagatña Shopping Center last April 22 and 23 and included fire truck pull, team relay course, solo relay course, firefighter water polo, and bucket brigade.

The CPA ARFF won first in Platoon B, which was held on the first day of the competition, while CNMI DFEMS placed first in Platoon A, which was held the following day. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

CNMI DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
AMERICA'S SBDC CNMI
CDA Commonwealth Development Authority

FREE Small Business Development Workshops

How to Write a Business Plan

Monday, May 8th, 2017

10:00am—12:30pm

Location: CDA Board Room

Presented by: Denise Mendiola, Guam SBDC Senior Business Advisor/ Women in Business Program Coordinator

Mendiola has over 12 years in business development and management with an emphasis in training and marketing and has over 10 years as a small business owner. Major awards include the 2004 SBA's Women in Business Champion, 2006 ASBDC State Star, 2012 ASBDC State Star, 2016 ASBDC State Star, and recently named one of the Top 25 Influential Women on Guam.

This seminar will cover all of the elements to be included in a business plan, & explain with examples what is required in each section. The focus of the seminar will be the three M's – Money, Management & Marketing. Participants will also be provided with a sample business plan, sources of industry research information, and introduced to online business planning tools that are accessible at any time through an internet-enabled PC.

Limited Seating. Register now at: pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com
For more information or to reserve your seats today, contact the CNMI SBDC at 670-664-3018 or visit www.pacificsbdc.com

DISCLAIMER: The Pacific Islands SBDC Network is funded in part through a co-operative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Language assistance services are available for limited English proficient individuals with enough advance notice. For arrangements, please contact Lorie Pangilinan, P.O. Box 5795 CHRB, Saipan MP 96950 Tel: (670)664-3018 or Email lorie@pacificsbdc.com. Services are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.

Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, May 17, 2017
5:00 PM, Multipurpose Center, Susupe
Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • www.zoning.gov.mp

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Public Comments *(not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)*

B. Public Hearings:
1. **Conditional Use Application #2017-1291:** Skywalker Holdings Company, LLC dba Skywalker Holdings Staff Housing is proposing to construct and assemble 3 (three) Pre-Fabricated structures for Institutional Residential Use. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. (Part of) EA 222-1 in Papago. It is zoned as Rural.
2. **Rezone Application #2017-1464:** Fermina G. Shimizu is requesting to rezone Lot No. 1734NEW-4-R2 in Chalan Kiya from "Rural" to "Mixed Commercial" zoning district to construct and operate a warehouse facility.
3. **Conditional Use Application #2017-1542:** P & A Incorporation is proposing to renovate an existing building and guest rooms, and to demolish an existing portion of a structure and reconstruct an area for warehouse use for supplies. This use is classified as "Motel" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot Nos. 550-New-15 & 550-New-16 in San Antonio. It is zoned as Mixed Commercial.
4. **Conditional Use Application #2017-1547:** Yong Shun Corporation dba Chang Ming Car Wash is proposing to operate a car wash facility. This use is classified as "Vehicle Repair, General" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 004 D 54 in Garapan. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.
5. **Conditional Use Application #2017-1568:** Unity Sense (CNMI), LLC dba Heaven II Hotel is proposing to occupy four existing structures to operate a hotel. This use is classified as "Hotel" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Tract No. 22667-2-R1 in Capitol Hill. This area is zoned as Rural.
6. **Conditional Use Application #2017-1686:** Seatimes Company Ltd. is proposing to occupy two existing buildings to operate a Bed and Breakfast. This use is classified as "Bed and Breakfast" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 128 D 24 in Garapan. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

C. Communication
D. Old Business
E. New Business
1. Operations Reports (Permitting & Enforcement)

F. Executive (Closed) Session
G. Miscellaneous
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

H. Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-031

FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to perform a financial and compliance audit of the CUC for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. The audit must be performed in compliance with the latest revision of the following guidelines:

- *OMB Circular A-133*
- *Standard for Audits of Government Organization, Programs, Activities and Function, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States*
- *Audits of States and Local Government Units, Industry Audit guide issued by the American Institute of Public Accountants (AICPA)*
- *Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS)*

The date of contract award will be no later than May 26, 2017. Audit work shall commence thereafter and must be completed within forty (40) calendar days from issuance of the Notice to Proceed (NTP). Auditors are responsible to review all the 2016 financial statements to include the physical CUC assets.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one RFP package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-17-031, Financial and Compliance Audit for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2016" to the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P. O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST), local time, on May 12, 2017**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All inquiries regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 5, 2017**, to Corina Magofna, CUC Budget Officer, via email address corina.magofna@cucgov.org and Manny Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reasons and to waive any defects in any proposals if, in its sole opinion, to do so will be in the best interest of the CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANUEL B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVII, Issue No. 87

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE EASIER.
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE SIMPLER.
QUANTUM PHYSICS
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE GREENER.
SAHARA DESERT
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE COOLER.
MIKE SMITH Las Vegas Sun
DISTRIBUTED BY KFS/NAS 2017

EDITORIAL

A table for three

North Korea presents what is perhaps America's most dangerous and urgent dilemma at the moment. So what should the Trump administration do?

Here is the problem. The Pyongyang regime of Leader Kim Jong Un, pretty much a one-trick pony with that steed being its nuclear weapon-missile program, has proved itself over the years to be very hard to deal with. Six-party talks, including South Korea, North Korea, China, Japan, Russia and the United States, haven't worked. Various palliative, conciliatory approaches to North Korea by various South Korean regimes haven't worked either.

Now, there is a situation where the United States is carrying out joint military exercises with South Korea across the border and has pulled up an aircraft carrier battle group and a nuclear-armed submarine in the region, while Kim shoots off memorial rockets and carries out his own military exercise in the north, putting everyone, including neighboring China and Japan, on edge. In addition to the saber-rattling, Trump is pursuing a policy of pushing China to rein in North Korea.

The overall picture is one of North Korea representing a realistic, lethal threat to South Korea. The southern capital is 35 miles from the North Korean border. North Korea's army numbers an estimated 1.4 million. Whether North Korea can or will present a credible intercontinental threat to the United States is in doubt, but at this point unlikely.

Nobody doubts that the United States could annihilate North Korea in a war. It is even quite possible that America already possesses technology that can hamstring North Korea's military enterprises. There is some ugly suspicion that Trump might like a war to establish his own credibility as president,

See A TABLE on Next Page

Jot it down: Don't let good ideas get away

By GINA BARRECA
The Hartford Courant

Gina Barreca is an English professor at the University of Connecticut and the author of If You Lean In, Will Men Just Look Down Your Blouse? *and eight other books. She can be reached at www.ginabarreca.com.*

"Where do you get the ideas for your columns?" Every time I give a talk, do an event, or speak at a writers' conference, this is one of the first questions. It's right up there with, "Do you think a talented person can make a living as a writer?" (No) and "Do you write every day?" (Yes, but sometimes it's just a note saying "NEED KITTY LITTER").

How do I get ideas? I write everything down. I sneak overheard lines onto the backs of receipts, which I insist on taking even though I've learned recently that expecting paper receipts is a sign that I'm outdated.

"You don't need a copy because you'll automatically have an electronic record and you should remember that printing anything also hurts the environment," a younger friend explained gently, as if telling me that carrier pigeons have been replaced by the postal service. She might have even taken my hand as she said the words, as if to soften the blow.

Look, I am a fan of the environment; my closest friends can testify that I've lived in it much of my life. But I am also a fan of printing things out. It's not only when tax time comes that I want those receipts in front of me: I want those slips of paper with overheard conversations at the gas station right in front of me when it's time to start writing.

Where does writing come from? It comes from other writing. It's like love or faith or, to be less lofty, money: To those who hath, more shall be given. It doesn't seem fair, but that's how it works. Words beget words. That's why you need to be an insatiable reader to be even a beginning writer. It's also why you need to keep writing once you start in order to flourish, even if you're not working on a big project or you're unsure where your work is headed.

When you sit down to work, you rely on your own words, phrases and ideas as well as ones from those who inspire you. People used to keep "commonplace books," where they transcribed their favorite passages or glued articles from the newspapers. A kind of intellectual scrapbook, they've now been replaced, like paper receipts, by electronic versions. I often use my Facebook page to post favorite quotations or links to pieces of writing I think are useful and important.

But I still have my notebooks and my paper-scrap files. These are irreplaceable.

As has every other bookish kid in the universe, I kept notebooks and diaries in childhood. Mine were from Woolworths and had a lock and key. My preferred writing tools were Sheaffer cartridge fountain pens and Flair pens in "dramatic colors." I don't exactly know why teal was dramatic but it was. At 49 cents a pop, I considered those Flairs a serious investment: Earning a dollar an hour baby-sitting, I chose my colors carefully.

My notebooks were filled with color. When inspired, I would draw hearts, birdhouses and cats in the margins using Venus Paradise colored pencils. (Absolutely true, most-embarrassing story from sixth-grade: transposing the initial letters of that product when discussing with an art teacher why I liked to draw. And because I don't have the imagination to invent a story like that, I write only non-fiction.)

My mother was very sick when I was in my early teens and for reasons I could never understand threw away my earliest diaries. I still feel the loss and I can, quite literally, see some of the pages (I know, for example, that one diary started with the line "Today I swam in the deep end" because I was proud to start the book with that sentence.). But if I've never made up for their absence, I've filled bookcases with their successors; at least some of these are going to the special collections library at Dartmouth College so that other bookish kids will be able to look at them, evidence of a time when people wrote things down on paper and scribbled in the margins, putting down words that will turn into columns. And even when the very paper on which they're written becomes outdated, they'll still act as a receipt offered by time.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Tres Klasen Tautau

Ho soda` amiguhu Magoo yan Denañg Magellan kulan silensiu yan chagu` hinasoson niha na talo`ane. Hu pasensiaye pumula` haf` umestototba i dos.

Ilegña si Magoo: "`Nai mattu i Español ha soda` tres na klasen tautau guine: kabilosu, mediu mandu` yan mosu." Kulan mohon ume`ekuñgog-yu` professot.

Ha apunta huyuñg si Magoo, "I kabilosu kalagtos, mediu mandu` mauleg gi chechu` kanai, pa`gu i mosu para matagu`".

"Gi tinilaikan tiempu guaha siha mosu mañgahulu` gi pueston mandispone kumu mandu` disposision che`chu` linahyan", segun as Denañg.

Dispues ha faisen si Magoo kau propiu na u fan dispopone i mediu mandu` `nai maseñala kumu mauleg gi che`chu` kanai?

"Kulan ti umaya para u ma`gas `nai tinahuñg kabesa piot gi didog na inanalisan asuntun linahyan siha".

"Hombre, yangin sague` machete `sino manbiran totniyu fafayimu cha`mu atrerebi hau mama` professot karisu para un` imbelekeruye mamatinas areglun lai", ineppi as Magoo.

"Ayu buenti na mampos abarambau kinalamten hegsu` I Deni`," hana` fagpu` si Denañg. Dispues `nai marepapara na parehu siha mediu mandu` lokue`! Suetteyu` sa` gaige rayahu gi tropan muchachu.

Potbus Abarambau

Guaha un` pution para u hihot gi tanu` ya todu u lini`e. Ti este chathinasog-hu soluke kau ha yuti` lokue` potbula siha guine ni muna` fan gineflinan hinassun manma`gas hegsu I Deni`.

Tatnai huli`e potbus pution lau `an enfin machalapun guine, pues mauleg i tropa u fan ali`e yan medikun atadog ya u fan mariseta matan niha. Ti pot hafa lau mibirada i hegsu` iya Papagu` yan I Deni` ya tatnai sisida u fan aksidenti.

Hu komprendi yangin dos bachet umatotpi. Lau `nai umatotpi hau pot potbulan pution, alulaye mariseta ni mediku. Piligru hinatme ti naturat na potbus tanu` piot pa`gu gi tiempun fañuchanan.

Kantan Esalau

Hinatme sankattan na Marianas finabrikan kantan esalau (Chamoru Chant) ni mafafama giya Guahan. Magahet na para in` fa` paluman loru hamyu rumepite tumatiye i tai tinatte na finabrikan ginen lichan?

Manu gi antigu na estorian natibu `nai gaige kantan esalau? Yangin faktu na hagas patte ennau gi kuttura pues siempre todu famaguon Chamorro hagas mapraktika ennau na modun kanta guine desde antes.

I tautau-ta Karolinas fotmatmiente gai kuttura kantan "chant" desde antigu na tiempu. Makondudukta gi pininiti yan na`magof na okasion. Gi chant finatai masañgañgane i prohimu na guiya suette sa` para umafagase gi sadog iya Ur giya Ihiptu dispues umabalutan ni tampen apaka` na magagu ya umakonduse hulu` gi lañget. Klaru ha establesi i chant koneksion yan antigu na tradision mana-o`mag gi sadog iya Ur. Manu na sadog `nai sumusugu` anten Chamoru? Pat siña mohon in` fabrika unu kadu` patte gi kutturan natibu?

Pot fabot fan gai respetu ni man-antigu na mañainata sa` guaha pinegan niha gi hatdin komunidat Chamorro sin una` fan mamahlau hit! Esta mauleg na gigon hafa` ilegta ha` na "cultural?"

Naufragu

Este na palabra pot pasaherun batku ni mapua gi taduñg ya mannañgu halum esta`i kantun ladera. Sige manmañeñas sahyan katkuet malofan na batku.

I mismu palabra kulan lokue` ayu na natibu i ti tumuñgu` kuttura yan tradision tanu` ni umapopotsu` na tiempu haf` tinatten niha.

Tai relihion ya pa`gu gai tinayuyot gi hechuran kantan esalau (chant). Finatinas sin pisu desde primet sakudida.

Tai baila fuerake finana`guen Español mestisa yan fayao. Mañoda` pa`gu bailaña nuebu! Adahe para un` famaisen para umabendise i haiguen niyog. Pot fabot, malefa hau na mas propiu i un` famatkilu pot ignorante gi haf` tinatemu?

I mafabrika na kuttura prefektu amot destrosiun sustansian tradision natibu. Bai` tatte yangin magahet lau `nai mafotman guinife, dinancheña che`chu` unestu gi este na asuntu. Ti un` bira hau mangagau dispensu!

Yangin pot para pot tane` bisita ginen hiyuñg, ke lau propiu para tafan mandage pot haf` ti patte gi kuttura-ta? Kase kutturan chanseru gi halum balutan dinage! Na para sa` sage`!

Akacha

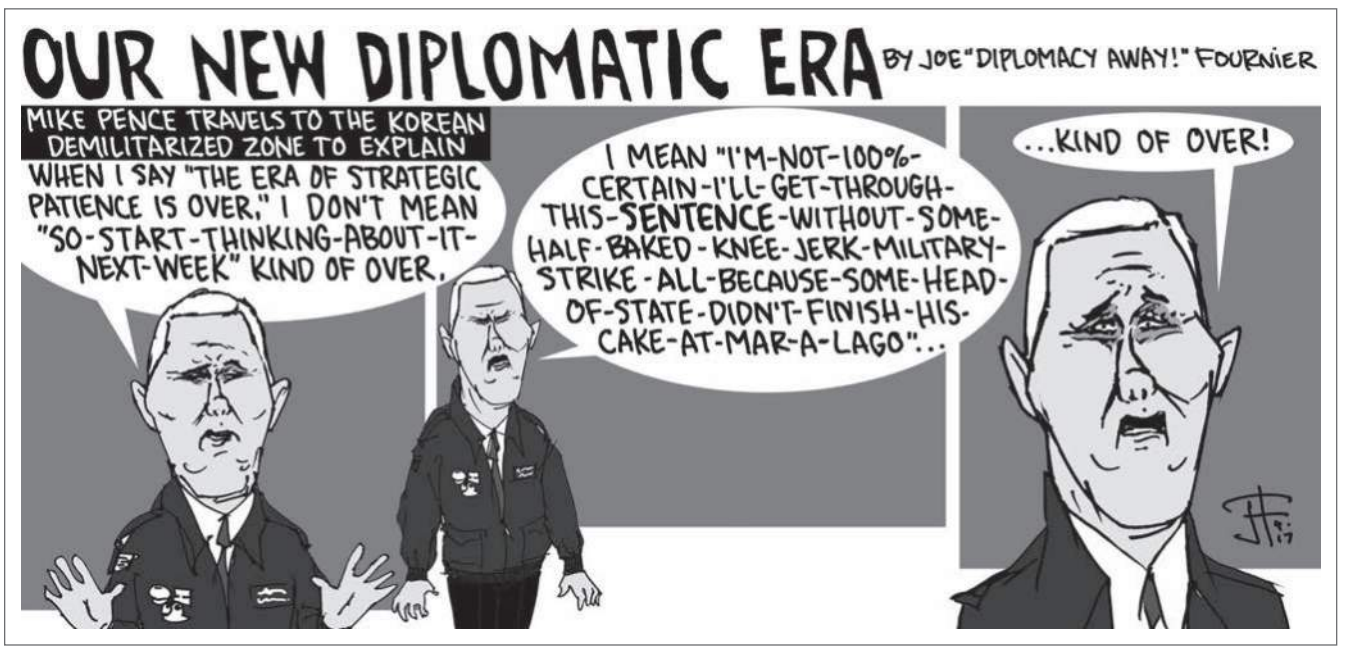
Haf` este na dibinan Pedron Malas kuantu na Yuus guaha. `Nai sinañgane as Juan na unu ha` na Yuus guaha ilegña si Duñg, "Kettu, hombre `nai hu sañgane si pale` na dies ti malagu` ha aksepta! Pa`gu para unu ha`?" Anog na tiha tuñgu` si Duñg dottrinaña. Ume`esuette gi hilu` mañan chanseru na pindehoti! Hombre iya `migu!

Nina` Siña

Hagas hu estudiaye nina` siñan mas ke otdinariu gi `nos kuantos tautau-ta. Tita li`e este otdinariamente gi pumalu sa` malimitte i numeru ginen hilu`.

Guaha mana`e fuetsan suruhanu, manamte ginen finatinasña amot, fresku kanaiña manlasa, keni` gi halum tanu` yan tasi, yan otru siha nina` siñan mas ke otdinariu.

Un` amku` nihu bisita giya siha fumaisenyu` kau hu tuñgu` ga guahayu` timatitiye. Esta hana` fanfuguyu`. Lau este siha na fuetsa ginen hilu`.


OUR NEW DIPLOMATIC ERA
BY JOE "DIPLOMACY AWAY!" FOURNIER
MIKE PENCE TRAVELS TO THE KOREAN DEMILITARIZED ZONE TO EXPLAIN
WHEN I SAY "THE ERA OF STRATEGIC PATIENCE IS OVER," I DON'T MEAN "SO-START-THINKING-ABOUT-IT-NEXT-WEEK" KIND OF OVER.
I MEAN "I'M-NOT-100%-CERTAIN-I'LL-GET-THROUGH-THIS-SENTENCE-WITHOUT-SOME-HALF-BAKED-KNEE-JERK-MILITARY-STRIKE-ALL-BECAUSE-SOME-HEAD-OF-STATE-DIDN'T-FINISH-HIS-CAKE-AT-MAR-A-LAGO"...
...KIND OF OVER!

A TABLE

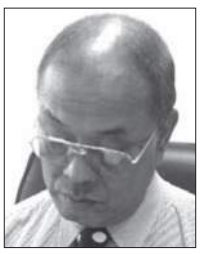
From Page 10

although that would be remarkably irresponsible. Thus, however, the field is particularly open to diplomacy at the highest level, giving Kim, Trump and Chinese leader Xi Jinping the opportunity to put lots of points on the board for leadership, at home as well as abroad.

So here's what could happen: Trump asks Xi to set up a meeting in Beijing at which Kim and he meet as guests of Xi to establish peace and avoid war in the Korean Peninsula. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Russian President Vladimir Putin could be invited, but it is probably best not to since the gathering would then seem to Kim like the neighbors ganging up on him, resembling the collapsed six-party talks. South Korea is awaiting presidential elections, the spot vacant after an impeachment ordeal, and can be left out on that basis.

Kim gets the serious recognition he clearly wants. Xi looks like the peace-seeking big dog of the neighborhood. Trump looks like the wise leader who used his new prestige to bring peace and avoid war, even while America's muscle remains visible. With such talks set up, underway or completed successfully, everyone could sleep much better.

(c) 2017 *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

LITERARY NOOK

Some thoughts on becoming a *man'amko*

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The month of May has been designated Older Americans Month in the CNMI. May is dedicated to the *man'amko* and adults are encouraged to reevaluate the meaning of aging this month. Here are some poems I've written on that subject. Now past the age of 67 I've had a little time to practice.

Baby Boomers: Another Day In The Life

We all grow older with every breath
Filling casinos, buffets, hospitals, and spas
Dealing with aging and inevitable death
Replacement knees, hips, 'push em up' girdles and bras
Spending millions on balding and dyeing gray hair
Falling arches, sagging guts, butts, shots of botox
Waking up each morning with new pains everywhere
Specialists give us bad news and a price that shocks
Pricing new models of an electric wheel chair
Trying new fad diets and old vitamin spin
Ignoring our flab and farting everywhere
Rationalizing fat food we eat is no sin
Hoping, praying to cure our cancer and tumors
Another day in the life of baby boomers

Old Friends Forever (OFF)

I was happy with my old buddy
some trails were dry some muddy
I was happy with my sweetheart
even when it was time for us to part
I remember with complete delight
how we would laugh after a stupid fight
and how those loving and friendly smiles
lasted on life's road for miles and miles
our love and friendship grew day and night
on sunny days and under the moon light
from budding plants till frost grew on the vine
sharing love and food finding truth in wine
though we friends and sweethearts all age
together against eternal night we all rage
and every morning glad I can still see
the results of long term friendship for me

Grandparents: A boomer sonnet

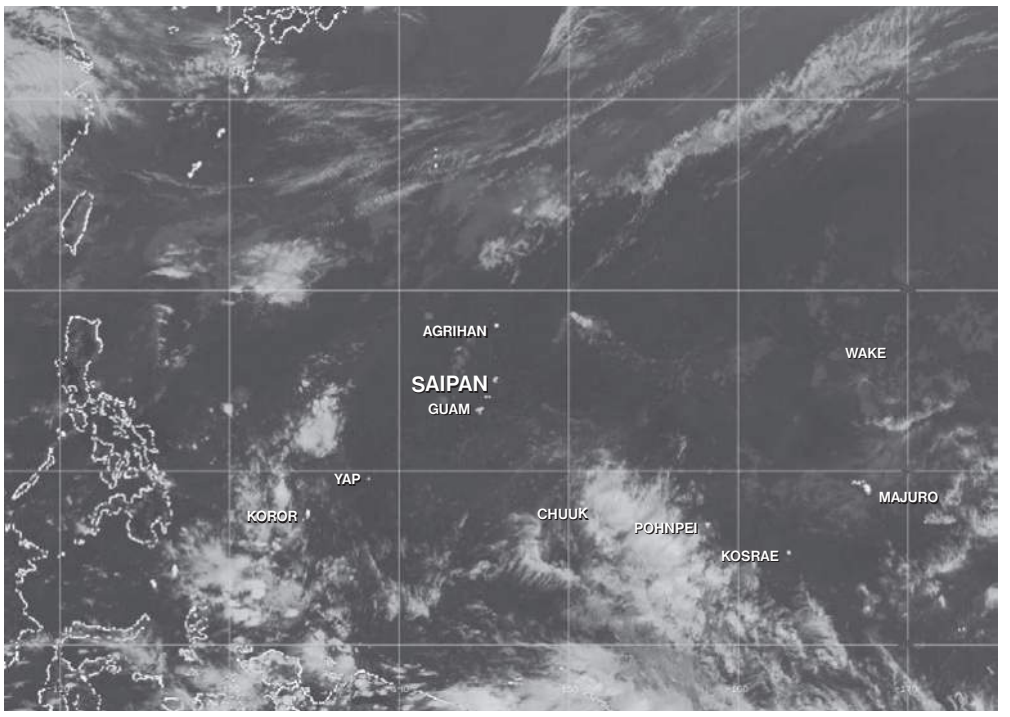
Do you remember your grandparents, even the in-laws?
Both sides from your biological mother and dad?
Did you have special names for them, 'Opa', 'Mamaw', and 'Papaw'?
Did they always hug and comfort you when you were sad?
Did they favor an older sister or a younger brother?
Were some dead before you were born or soon after?
Did they give you all the same presents or one thing then another?
When they came by did you know you were in for laughter?
Are you one now? Do your grandkids live very far away?
Do you enjoy the drive to see them, like to watch them play?
Are your kids not too happy when for a week you'll stay?
Are your grandkids the smartest and cutest no matter what others say?
So Gramps, Grams, grumpy Grandpa, and gentle Grammies
Enjoy your grandkids, sunburned, dirty, or in their jammies

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Scattered showers and thunderstorms, especially early in the day.	Partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms possible.	Partly cloudy with late night showers or thunderstorms.	Variably cloudy with scattered thunderstorms.	Scattered thunderstorms in the morning, then becoming mostly sunny late.
▲86° ▼78°	▲86° ▼78°	▲86° ▼78°	▲86° ▼78°	▲86° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:22 AM, TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A mainly dry trade wind pattern will persist across the Marianas through much of the week. Some isolated showers moved through earlier and there are additional low clouds to the southeast, between Guam and Chuuk. A trade wind disturbance was located southeast of Chuuk.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Mostly Cloudy	87 | 79 °F
Palau	Thunderstorms	87 | 78 °F
Yap	Thunderstorms	83 | 72 °F
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86 | 80 °F
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85 | 78 °F
Kosrae	Partly cloudy	86 | 80 °F
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	85 | 80 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Sunny	61 | 49 °F
Beijing	Thunderstorms	86 | 73 °F
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	81 | 76 °F
Honolulu	Sunny	84 | 73 °F
London	Overcast	57 | 50 °F
Los Angeles	Sunny	79 | 61 °F
Manila	Thunderstorms	90 | 78 °F
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	58 | 45 °F
Miami	Mostly Sunny	85 | 76 °F
New York	Sunny	74 | 52 °F
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	75 | 56 °F
Paris	Cloudy	59 | 45 °F
Pusan	Sunny	83 | 53 °F
Rome	Partly Cloudy	72 | 51 °F
Salem	Cloudy	63 | 52 °F
San Francisco	Sunny	76 | 55 °F
Seoul	Sunny	85 | 54 °F
Tokyo	Sunny	71 | 56 °F
Washington, DC	Sunny	68 | 52 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:15 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.86
8:01 AM	LOW TIDE	1.12
12:27 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.56
7:55 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.01

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:52 AM	6:35 PM
Thursday	5:52 AM	6:35 PM
Friday	5:52 AM	6:35 PM
Saturday	5:51 AM	6:35 PM
Sunday	5:51 AM	6:36 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	12:23 AM	12:13 PM
Thursday	-	1:12 AM	1:09 PM
Friday	-	1:58 AM	2:01 PM
Saturday	-	2:41 AM	2:52 PM
Sunday	-	3:22 AM	3:42 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769.
E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 25, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:35am	6:25am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	3:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily
ZE582	4:25pm	8:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	2:55am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	4, 5

SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)

7C3433	3:55am	7:30am	3, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:50am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:30am	Daily via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 3, 4, 6
HX077	2:15am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6391/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	8:25am	1:45pm	Daily
ZE581	10:15am	3:35pm	Daily
7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	8:15pm	1:35am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	8:30pm	1:20am+1	6, 7
OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:35pm	2:15am+1	3, 4

JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN

7C3434	10:05pm	2:40am+1	2, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:50pm	12:45am+1	3, 7
UO42	4:50pm	12:05am+1	2, 6
UO42	6:05pm	1:10am+1	1
UO42	6:10pm	1:10am+1	4
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Human skeleton donated to UOG for science

The University of Guam recently received a donation that will help science students bring their coursework out of their textbooks and directly into their hands. Dr. Greg and Norma Miller donated a full human skeleton and an additional skull to the UOG College of Natural and Applied Sciences to use in biology and other courses.

"This unique donation to the university highlights the many ways that members of our island community have a direct impact on the education of our students," said UOG Endowment Foundation executive director Janiece Sablan.

CNAS dean Dr. Lee Yudin said the donation will be used as a learning tool for classes such as biology and anatomy.

Dr. Laura Biggs, assistant professor of Physiology and STEM Education, said a large number of students studying Biology at UOG are slated to go into the medical field after graduation. Utilizing authentic human bones aids in their understanding of the human body.

"About half of our 350 Biology majors are biomedical track and these numbers continue to grow," Biggs said. "Our students are interested in becoming doctors, pharmacists, veterinarians, and physical therapists. Having a fully connected skeleton in the lab allows our students the experience of seeing the bones and joints in their true form." ***(UOG)***

Dr. Greg and Norma Miller recently donated a full human skeleton and an additional skull to the University of Guam College of Natural and Applied Sciences to use as a learning tool. From left to right: University of Guam senior vice president of Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez, Dr. Greg Miller, Norma Miller, UOG College of Natural and Applied Sciences dean Dr. Lee Yudin, and UOG Endowment Foundation director Janiece Sablan.
UOG

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

From the family near and far, we would like to wish young and handsome Khaleel RJ Davis Barcinas with all the blessings in the world, love, happiness, and nurturing as he turns 1 year old today. As young as he is, he has a lot of to be grateful for, a loving and great parents, sister Khaiceel, and numerous family from all over.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Audit completed for FSM trust fund

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Trust Fund Committee of the Trust Fund for the People of the Federated States of Micronesia approved the fiscal year 2016 annual report on Apr. 1. The FY 2016 Audited Financial Statements were completed by the independent auditor, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, on March 27 and presented to the Committee on April 12. Both reports were released to the respective governments.

The Fund's restricted fiduciary net position value increased 17.5 percent to $466,938,730 for FY 2016 from $397,313,588 for FY15. The increase was primarily due to contributions from the U.S. government ($28,288,800) and gross investment income from investments ($42,148,280). There was a net investment gain of $41,519,302.

The Fund had a weighted annual rate of return of 9.71 percent, following a loss of 2.59 percent for FY15 and three consecutive growth years: 9.1 percent for FY14, 14.4 percent for FY13, and 15.9 percent for FY12. Overall, on a performance basis, net of fees, the Fund has had a 4.96 percent return since inception, below the benchmark of 5.40 percent.

Total investment and administrative expenses decreased to 0.81 percent of restricted fiduciary net position in FY16 from 0.88 percent in FY15. Investment expenses increased in dollar value but decreased to 0.77 percent of restricted fiduciary net position from 0.81 percent in FY15. Administrative expenses decreased in dollar value and as a percent of restricted fiduciary net position to 0.04 percent from 0.07 percent.

The FY16 audit performed by Baker Tilly was completed on time and according to U.S Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. There were no audit findings.

The Trust Fund for the People of the Federated States of Micronesia was established by the Compact of Free Association, as codified in the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (U.S. Public Law 108-188, December 17, 2003). The Trust Fund's purpose is to contribute to the economic advancement and long-term budgetary self-reliance of the FSM by providing a source of revenue for the government and the people of the Federated States of Micronesia when certain grants under the Amended Compact of Free Association expire in 2023. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Saipan chamber meeting today

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have a general membership meeting today, May 3, at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa. The luncheon will begin at 11:30am and the meeting portion will start at noon. The main speaker will be Jim Arenovski of Island Training Solutions, who recently testified in Washington, D.C. at the Senate Committee hearing on Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's H.R. 339. Also speaking is Kagman High School principal Leila Staffler, who will give an update on this year's Million Dollar Scholar program. ***(PR)***

May is Taste of the Marianas Festival

The 19th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden will be held every Saturday in May at Garapan Fishing Base from 6pm to 10pm. This Saturday's entertainment includes 180 Revolution, the opening ceremony, K-Pop, Glushko's Academy of Performing Arts, Simiyan Mariana-ta, Tiul Belau Dancers, and Refaluwasch Warriors. This week will also feature a Hotdog Eating Contest sponsored by Docomo Pacific. For more information, follow the Marianas Visitors Authority on facebook.com/MyMarianas. ***(MVA)***

Coffee with the Chacha principal on Friday

This is to inform all parents, guardians, and the community that Chacha Oceanview Middle School will be hosting "Coffee with the Principal" to discuss the upcoming 8th grade promotional ceremony. The meeting will be held in the school cafeteria at 10am on Friday, May 5, 2017. Please call the school at 237-3921 or 664-4100 if you have any question or concerns. ***(PR)***

Tourism Month graphic art design contest

The Marianas Visitors Authority and Marianas Tourism Education Council are holding a Tourism Month 2017 Graphic Arts Design Contest for CNMI students in grades 6-12. Submissions must be an original digital design with the words "See My Marianas" featuring a site/location in the Marianas that the artist would encourage people to visit. The deadline to submit entries is May 12, 2017. Prizes begin at $150 cash plus $150 Taste of the Marianas tokens for first place. The deadline to submit entries is May 12, 2017. For contest guidelines, visit www.mymaianas.com. ***(MVA)***

Notice to Prior Service Trust Fund beneficiaries

This notice applies to the Prior Service Trust Fund beneficiaries who are having their monthly benefit checks directly deposited to their account at Bank of Guam. Effective June 1, 2017, Bank of Guam will no longer perform this service for you. In the interim, until PSTF can establish an automatic deposit clearing, PSTF will be mailing your benefit check to your mailing address on file. Contact the PSTF Administration Office at telephone number 322-9753 to confirm your current mailing address by June 1, 2017. The PSTF office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8am to noon and from 1pm to 5pm. ***(PR)***

VA benefits counselor visiting Saipan

The U.S. Department of Veterans benefits administration will be visiting Saipan. A VA benefits counselor will be at the Saipan VA Outreach Clinic on May 24, 2017, from 9:30am to 3:30pm to answer benefits questions, and assist with the claim process. The Saipan VA Outreach Clinic is located at the MH II Bldg., Suite 206, Marina Heights Business Park in Garapan. To request an appointment, contact Ruth Coleman at 322-0035. ***(PR)***

Vendors invited to NMC Annual Charter Day

The Northern Marianas College is inviting vendors to take part in the college's 36th annual Charter Day celebration on Friday, May 12, 2017. Agencies, businesses, clubs and other civic organizations are invited to participate in this year's celebration by purchasing booth space for the following categories: food and drinks (water/ coconut juice in a nut), game booths, retail (arts, and crafts, toys etc.), and information. Booth applications forms must be submitted by Friday, May 5, 2017, by 4pm. Note, however, that booth spaces are limited so applications should be submitted as soon as possible. The booth fee is $150 for all commercial vendors but for student clubs and nonprofit organizations, booth fees are $75. For more information, contact Queanna Sablan at 237-6809 or email queanna.sablan@marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

Register now for Chamber's Corporate Challenge

The 17th Annual Corporate Challenge will be held on May 28, 2017, at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe. The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is inviting Chamber member businesses to join in the competition to win the title of Corporate Challenge champions. The Chamber is now accepting company team registrations. Space is limited to the first registered teams. The deadline for registration will be on Friday, May 19, 2017, at 5pm. To register now, or for more information, call 234-7150 or e-mail administrator@saipanchamber.com for more information or visit www.saipanchamber.com. ***(PR)***

Participants sought in research

Those who participated in the Pacific STAR Center for Young Writers project in 2006 are being invited to take part in a research project conducted by a CNMI resident Jennifer Furey Maratita. In 2006, young writers were asked to contribute to a book, titled *We Drank Our Tears: Memories of the Battles for Saipan and Tinian as Told by Our Elders* (Tuten-Puckett, 2004). Maratita's research questions will focus on the understanding of the impact this project had and its relevance in your life nowadays. The impacts of shared narratives across generations in the CNMI are of special concern. For more information, email Maratita at jennifer.maratita@waldenu.edu or call/text (670) 483-3879. ***(PR)***

Call for historical papers

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council, University of Guam, Northern Marianas College, and Guampedia are calling for papers for the 3rd Marianas History Conference. The conference will be held on Saipan on Sept. 1-3, 2017, at a venue to be announced later. The deadline for abstracts is April 28, 2017. Conference presenters will be allotted 20 minutes to present. For more information about the conference, contact council staff at 235-4785 or visit the council's website at: www.northernmarianashumanities.org. ***(PR)***

Business

With visas tight, US resorts struggle to find seasonal help

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)— Innkeepers, restaurateurs and landscapers around the U.S. say they are struggling to find seasonal help and turning down business in some cases because the government tightened up on visas for temporary foreign workers.

"There's going to be a lot of businesses that just can't function on a full-time basis, and some might not even open at all," said Mac Hay, who co-owns Mac's Seafood on Cape Cod and has organized seasonal businesses to lobby Congress.

At issue are H-2B temporary visas, which are issued for workers holding down seasonal, nonagricultural jobs.

The U.S. caps the number at 66,000 per fiscal year. Some workers return year after year, and Congress has let them do so in the past without being counted toward the limit. No such exception was passed for 2017 at the end of last year, after the presidential election.

Lawmakers on Monday unveiled a government spending bill that would allow the homeland security secretary to increase the number of H-2B visas this fiscal year to almost 130,000.

But there is concern that even if the measure passes, it will take weeks for visas to be processed, meaning many workers probably won't arrive in time for Memorial Day and maybe not until after the Fourth of July.

AP

In this April 25, 2017 photo, Stephen Faulkner, owner of Faulkner's Landscaping & Nursery, holds a shovel at a landscape project in Manchester, N.H.

Many resorts rely heavily on foreigners on H-2B visas to work as housekeepers, cooks, dishwashers and the like, saying they cannot find enough Americans willing to take such jobs. President Donald Trump himself has hired seasonal workers at his Mar-a-Lago resort in this way.

Each visa typically costs at least $1,000 in government fees, travel and other expenses, paid by employers.

At the Beachmere Inn in Ogunquit, Maine, owner Sarah Mace Diment said she cut back on the number of rooms available during New England's spring vacation week in April because she is short eight housekeepers, who are paid $10 to $12.50 an hour. None of her visa requests were granted, she said.

Critics say that bringing in cheap foreign labor undercuts U.S. workers and drives down wages and that employers aren't trying hard enough to hire Americans. Under the H-2B rules, employers must advertise for U.S. workers first.

Diment said she hires housekeepers from Jamaica because there aren't enough people in rural, southern Maine looking for seasonal work. Maine is at its lowest unemployment on record, 3 percent. She has hired U.S. college students, but they go back to school in August, well before the season ends in October.

"I'm always going to hire an American first. I'm always going to hire someone locally first," Diment said. "We're not using this program because it's easy. It's not. It's very difficult and expensive, but we're using it because we have no other options."

Landscapers are the biggest users of the H-2B program. Stephen Faulkner, who owns a landscaping and nursery business in Hooksett, New Hampshire, said he expects to turn away hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of work this season because he could not get visas for any of the six Mexican landscapers who have been with him for a decade.

He said he is considering giving up the landscape division.

"My company is being devastated by not having my returning workers," he said. "I'm running out of energy and fortitude, and American jobs might be lost because of it."

The AFL-CIO says the H-2B program enables discrimination and exploitation of workers and hurts efforts to raise wages and improve working conditions. And U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders has questioned whether willing Americans truly are unavailable for these jobs.

No shutdown: $1.1T agreement shows Democrats' clout

WASHINGTON (AP)— Erasing the threat of a disruptive government shutdown, the White House and top lawmakers endorsed a $1.1 trillion spending bill Monday to carry the nation through September, an agreement underscoring that Democrats retain considerable clout in Donald Trump's turbulent presidency.

Negotiators released the 1,665-page bill after Republicans dropped numerous demands on the environment, Obama-era financial regulations and abortion in marathon sessions over the weekend. The bill is slated for a House vote on Wednesday, with a Senate vote ahead of a Friday midnight deadline.

"We thought we had the upper hand because a government shutdown would be on their shoulders, and we made that clear," Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said in an interview. "We knew that if we didn't push things too far we could get a good deal that could make us happy and that's what happened."

Trump and the White House had made concessions last week when the president relented on his demand that the measure include a $1.4 billion down payment for his proposed wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. Trump repeatedly insisted during the election campaign that Mexico would pay for the wall, a claim Mexican officials have vigorously rejected.

Congressional Republicans and Democrats ignored Trump's proposal to cut billions of dollars from domestic programs.

Democrats boasted of money for foreign assistance and cash-strapped Puerto Rico while winning funding for favored programs like transit projects and grants for first responders. They also defied Trump on a bid to punish "sanctuary cities" and on immigration enforcement. The White House and some top GOP allies declared victory anyway, citing billions of dollars more for the military. Trump won a $15 billion down payment on his request to strengthen the military, though that also fell short of what he requested.

Vice President Mike Pence told CBS News Monday that the administration "couldn't be more pleased" and called the agreement it a "budget deal that's a bipartisan win for the American people."

House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., praised the bill as well, saying it "acts on President Trump's commitment to rebuild our military for the 21st century and bolster our nation's border security to protect our homeland."

Longstanding conservative resistance to big spending bills requires the party to seek Democratic votes to pass spending bills despite the Republican majorities both houses of Congress. That made the party out of power a major player in the negotiations. The talks were also spurred by a strong Republican desire to complete unfinished business well into the fiscal year and move on to health care repeal and tax overhaul, both of which are iffy propositions.

Trump says he's willing to consider raising gas tax

WASHINGTON (AP)— President Donald Trump on Monday said he will explore the possibility of higher gasoline and diesel fuel taxes, suggesting an increase could pay for his ambitious infrastructure plan.

"It's something that I would certainly consider," Trump told Bloomberg News in an interview.

The president indicated that the additional money would be directed toward highway construction and repair. That's been a problem area because fuel taxes have been unchanged since 1993 and created financial challenges for preserving the Highway Trust Fund.

The federal government currently finances its trust fund with an 18.4 cents per gallon tax on gasoline and a 24.4 cents per gallon tax on diesel fuel, neither of which are adjusted for inflation so the revenues raised has effectively fallen over time.

To keep a positive balance in the trust fund, lawmakers have injected an additional $143 billion into it since 2008, according to a report last year by the Congressional Budget Office. Highway-related tax revenue raised just $37.4 billion in fiscal 2015, meaning that maintenance has been deferred as potholes and traffic jams have worsened.

It's a rare tax increase that enjoys support from the businesses most likely to bear the higher cost.

The U.S. trucking industry—which shoulders roughly half the cost of the fuel taxes—would welcome an increase if it's dedicated to fixing infrastructure. The industry benefits because better roads reduce travel times, curb the frequency of vehicle repairs and improve roadway safety.

"The cost of doing nothing is more expensive than a higher fuel tax," said Chris Spear, president of the American Trucking Associations.

Higher fuel taxes could increase costs for commuters—and could disproportionately hit lower-income workers, including Trump voters, who spend a greater percentage of their money on gasoline. But greater funding for highways could also increase the number of construction jobs in the economy, helping growth.

By increasing fuel taxes by 35 cents a gallon and indexing them to inflation, the federal government would raise an additional $473.6 billion over the next decade, according to the staff of the congressional Joint Committee on Taxation.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
20,913.46	2,388.33	6,091.60
-27.05	+4.13	+44.00
-0.13%	0.17%	0.73%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3262	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7796	Russian Ruble	56.8983
British Pound	0.7751	Indian Rupee	64.185	Singapore Dollar	1.3941
Canadian Dollar	1.3662	Japanese Yen	111.979	South Korean Won	1129.2
Chinese Yuan	1.3662	Malaysian Ringgit	4.327	Swiss Franc	0.9954
Euro	0.9154	New Zealand Dollar	1.4454	Taiwan Dollar	29.971
		Philippine Peso	50.06	Thailand Baht	34.53

Nation

Pool party gunman called ex-girlfriend during deadly rampage

SAN DIEGO (AP)—A gunman distraught over a recent breakup calmly reclined in a pool chair as he shot strangers at a birthday party and phoned his ex-girlfriend so she could hear the gunfire and screams of terror, San Diego police said Monday.

Before police fatally shot him, Peter Selis killed one woman and wounded six other people in a rampage that turned a birthday party into bedlam as shots echoed among upscale apartment towers, people ran for their lives and the wounded lay bleeding by the pool.

All but one of the victims were black and Latino and Selis was white, but police don't think race played a factor.

"These victims were just in his vicinity when he committed this terrible tragedy," police Chief Shelley Zimmerman said. "What started as a celebration of a friend's birthday party turned into a tragedy of just epic proportion for all those in attendance."

Selis, 49, was despondent and depressed over a recent breakup, though family and friends interviewed by police had no hint of any sinister plot.

As children splashed in the pool Sunday, a family soaked in a hot tub and others ate chips and hot dogs, the gunman stood out from the crowd of about 35 as he sat by the pool gate wearing a heavy black jacket on a hot day, said Demetrius Griffin, a guest at the party.

AP
People look over the scene Monday, May 1, 2017, in San Diego, at the La Jolla Crossroads apartments where a deadly shooting took place on Sunday.

Source: AP
Graphic: Staff, TNS

The shooting began after the man celebrating his 50th birthday approached Selis. Griffin assumed his friend, who was always welcoming, invited the man to join the fun.

Instead, he pulled a gun from his waistband, shot the party host twice in the torso and then opened fire on the party, Griffin said.

"It was very eerie, to say the least," Griffin said. "He didn't stand up. He didn't say anything. He just opened fire."

Griffin briefly froze and then dropped to the ground as six rounds sent people scattering and dropped others on the pool deck.

After shooting two people, Selis, a resident at the complex, called his ex-girlfriend to tell her what he'd done.

"Selis stayed on the phone talking to his ex-girlfriend as he continued to fire his weapon," Zimmerman said. "It is apparent that Selis wanted his ex-girlfriend to listen in as he carried out his rampage."

During the brief call, Selis told the woman that he had shot two police, the police were arriving and then "made some reference to 'shooting it out' or something along those lines," Assistant Police Chief Brian Ahearn said. The woman heard two more gunshots before the line went dead, he said.

At 6:06 p.m., a caller told police two people had been shot at the La Jolla Crossroads complex on Judicial Drive. Several other callers reported hearing gunfire and people screaming.

Rikky Galiendes, a student at the University of California, San Diego, said he heard between eight and 10 gunshots, looked outside his sixth-story apartment and saw a bleeding man running near the pool below.

"The whole thing was really emotionally draining—seeing blood everywhere, seeing bodies on the ground, hoping they survived, seeing bloody footsteps you know of people who ran away," Galiendes said. "There was just so much blood."

A police helicopter and officers on the ground arrived about 7 minutes after the first call. The pilot reported seeing multiple victims down and directed officers to Selis, who he said appeared to be reloading his weapon.

Selis was killed as he fired his .45-caliber handgun at a sergeant and two officers, Zimmerman said.

Selis shot three black women, two black men, a Latino man and a white woman, police said.

Six of the shooting victims were expected to survive, Zimmerman said. Another man was taken to the hospital after he broke his arm running away.

Selis, a father who worked as a mechanic at a Ford dealership, filed for federal bankruptcy protection in October 2015, listing $14,000 in assets and $108,000 in liabilities, according to court records.

Investigators have not found any notes or evidence in his internet search history to suggest that Selis planned the shooting, Ahearn said.

ACROSS THE NATION

Body found in Grand Canyon ID'd as missing teen hiker

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK, Ariz. (AP)—A body found last week has been identified as that of a 14-year-old hiker who went missing nearly two weeks ago while hiking a remote part of the Grand Canyon during a family trip, authorities said Monday. Jackson Standefer, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, was crossing a creek on April 15 when he and his step-grandmother, LouAnn Merrell, lost their footing and were swept away. The cause and manner of death for Jackson Standefer is pending, said Trish Lees, a spokeswoman for the Coconino County Medical Examiner's Office. Merrell, the wife of Merrell Boot Co. co-founder Randy Merrell, is still missing. Park rangers spent days searching with a helicopter, ground crews, drones and a motorized inflatable boat before the search was scaled back.

Milwaukee jury: Charge staffers in inmate dehydration death

MILWAUKEE (AP)—A jury on Monday recommended criminal charges against seven Milwaukee County jail staffers in the dehydration death of an inmate who went without water for seven days. The jury's recommendation came after a six-day inquest that included testimony from jail staff and evidence from county prosecutors. The jury found probable cause for "abuse of a resident of a penal facility" in the death of 38-year-old Terrill Thomas on April 24, 2016. The jurors recommended charges against two jail supervisors, Nancy Evans and Kashka Meadors, and five officers: James Ramsey-Guy, JorDon Johnson, Thomas Laine, Dominique Smith and John Weber. It's up to prosecutors whether to file charges. Milwaukee County District Attorney John Chisholm said he had no timeline to decide, and that he could charge more people—or fewer.

Police: Motive unclear for University of Texas stabbings

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—A student with a large hunting knife stabbed at least four people on the University of Texas campus, killing one and seriously wounding the others before surrendering to police, authorities said.

There was no immediate word about a motive.

Student Rachel Prichett said she was standing in line at a food truck outside a gym Monday when she saw a man with a knife resembling a machete approach the person standing behind her.

"The guy was standing next to me," Prichett said. "He grabbed him by the shoulder and shoved the knife in it. I just started running as fast as I could."

Police identified the suspect as 21-year-old Kendrex J. White.

University police Chief David Carter described the weapon as a "Bowie-style" hunting knife. He said the stabbings occurred within a one-block area as the attacker "calmly walked around the plaza."

Another student, Ray Arredondo, said he was walking to his car when a mass of students near the gym started running.

"They were just screaming, 'Run! Get out of here!'" Arredondo said.

One person died at the scene near the gym. The others were taken to the hospital. There were reports of additional victims with non-life-threatening injuries, according to tweets from Travis County Emergency Medical Services.

The attacker did not resist when officers confronted him at gunpoint, Carter said.

Lindsey Clark said she saw the suspect get tackled by police as he was running toward the entrance of Jester Hall, a complex of dormitories and classrooms. She described him as wearing a bandanna and gray sweatshirt and said he appeared quiet and subdued as police held him on the ground.

"You could see and hear people running and screaming: 'There he is!'" before he was tackled by officers, Clark said.

Carter said it would be "premature" to discuss the suspect's motive and "what was going through his mind."

Arredondo later saw what looked like CPR being performed on someone outside the front door of the gym. Another student was sitting on a bench being treated for cuts to the head or neck, he said.

Authorities cordoned off the scene as a large contingent of state and local police, including officers in helicopters, swarmed the area.

The University of Texas is blocks from downtown Austin and the Texas Capitol and is one of the nation's largest universities.

White was an active member of the Black Health Professionals Organization student organization on campus, said Melody Adindu, the group's new president. She said White was passionate about his work and was "very interactive and easygoing."

Some of White's former classmates at Killeen High School, near the gates of the Fort Hood Army post in Central Texas, had similar recollections of him.

"He was a really smart guy in high school, he was always nice, had plenty of friends, and was in the International Baccalaureate program. I'm definitely surprised he would do this," Kay'Lynn Wilkerson told the Killeen Daily Herald.

Ex-classmate Angela Bonilla called White "the sweetest guy, laughing and having a good time with people".

Asia

Watchdog to Trump: Accountability not red carpet for Duterte

AP

In this combination of file photos, from left to right: Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte is pictured on Oct. 26, 2016, in Tokyo; U.S. President Donald Trump is pictured April 29, 2017, in Washington.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A U.S.-based human rights group says President Donald Trump should not roll out the White House red carpet for Philippine leader Rodrigo Duterte, whom it accused of being a "mastermind" of mass murder because of his anti-drug crackdown in which thousands have died.

Human Rights Watch and other critics reacted with alarm Monday at Trump's invitation to Duterte to visit the White House. In a telephone call, Trump also affirmed America's alliance and friendship with the Philippines and its president, who has maintained an antagonistic stance toward U.S. security policies.

The U.S. and other countries close to the Philippines "have an obligation to urge accountability for the victims of Duterte's abusive drug war, rather than offer to roll out the red carpet for official state visits with its mastermind," said Phelim Kine, HRW's deputy director for Asia.

Kine said Trump may damage human rights by making overly friendly overtures to Duterte, who is facing a complaint for alleged mass murder before the International Criminal Court.

Trump will cut a "bad deal" for the American and Filipino people if he fetes Duterte with a White House reception without assessing the implications "of hosting and toasting a foreign leader whose links to possible crimes against humanity for instigating and inciting extrajudicial killings has already prompted warnings from the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court," Kine said in an email.

Duterte has said his administration does not back extrajudicial killings, although he has repeatedly threatened drug suspects with death and violence in nationally televised speeches. Duterte's spokesman, Ernie Abella, did not immediately reply to a request for comment Monday.

Duterte said he has not accepted the invitation because of scheduled trips to Russia, Israel and other countries.

"I'm tied up," he told reporters Monday in southern Davao city. "I cannot make any definite promise."

U.S. and Philippine officials said Trump's calls and invitations to several Asian allies including Duterte were aimed at discussing the crisis over North Korea's nuclear threats.

In his phone conversation with Trump, Duterte said he relayed the region's alarm over the North Korean standoff.

"I said Mr. President, I do not think that you can scare (North Korean leader) Kim Jung Un with fire power," Duterte said. "Our greatest chance there of getting some dialogue with America and North Korea would be through the intercession of China."

Abella said in a statement that "the discussion that transpired between the presidents was warm, with President Trump expressing his understanding and appreciation of the challenges facing the Philippine president, especially on the matter of dangerous drugs."

A White House statement described the call as "very friendly" and said the U.S.-Philippine alliance "is now heading in a very positive direction."

Trump's chief of staff, Reince Priebus, said friendlier ties are needed, even with concerns about Duterte's human rights record, citing the North Korean threat.

"The purpose of this call is all about North Korea," Priebus told ABC's "This Week" on Sunday. "It doesn't mean that human rights don't matter."

The U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad al-Hussein, said Monday he hopes Trump will send a "very clear and undiluted message" to Duterte, but stopped short of calling for the meeting to be canceled.

"The Philippine president has gone on record claiming that he perpetrated homicide when in a previous capacity he launched a campaign against those involved allegedly in the drug trade," he said to reporters in Geneva.

"My hope is that the president of the United States will convey this deep sense of alarm about the apparent shirking of the obligations under the law—to subject any alleged violator of the law to the normal process that should be undertaken," Zeid said. "We will wait to see what comes out of that meeting, but I hope the message will be very clear and firm on this."

Japan PM says he will initiate debate on new constitution

TOKYO (AP)—Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe pledged Monday to initiate debate in parliament on revising the country's U.S.-drafted constitution as he pushes to achieve a long-sought goal during a milestone year.

The democratic and pacifist charter took effect 70 years ago on May 3.

Abe, attending an annual rally on revising the constitution organized by ruling party lawmakers and other backers, said the time has come "to show the people, with confidence, our vision for the future of our country and what an ideal constitution should look like." Abe, who has long sought to amend the current constitution, attended the rally for the first time.

"As an overwhelming No. 1 party, we are committed to lead a realistic and concrete discussion" in parliament's constitution research council, he said. He said he will show the public how his government plans to preserve "a peaceful and affluent Japan as the country faces challenges ranging from the regional security threat to a shrinking population and workforce."

Demands for change have so far been led mainly by Abe's ruling party, rather than by the public, which has been split on the issue.

A recent poll by TBS television showed that support for a revision has dipped in recent years, while two-thirds of respondents to another recent poll by public broadcaster NHK said debate on constitutional change has been insufficient.

Abe's Liberal Democratic Party and its nationalistic supporters have advocated constitutional revisions for years. They view the 1947 constitution as the legacy of Japan's defeat in World War II and an imposition of the victor's world order and values. The charter renounces the use of force in international conflicts and limits Japan's troops to self defense, although Japan has a well-equipped modern military that works closely with the U.S.

Proposed revisions to the constitution released by the ruling party in 2012 are intended to restore traditions similar to prewar family values centered on the emperor and place the national interest before individuals' basic human rights in some cases.

The current situation in and outside Japan is seen possibly helping Abe's push for constitutional revision. His party has large majorities in both houses—a rare dominance needed for constitutional change—and the public's resistance to a revision of the pacifist constitution is apparently loosening with North Korea's growing nuclear and missile threat.

ASIAN BRIEFS

2 Muslim men killed by mob over cow theft charges in India

GAUHATI, India (AP)—Two Muslim men were beaten to death by a mob in northeastern India over allegations of cow theft, the latest in a series of similar attacks across the country, police officials said Monday. Senior Assam state police official Mukesh Aggarwal said police have filed a criminal complaint and are trying to identify the members of the mob, but no arrests have been made so far. The attack took place Sunday in a village in Nagon district , 130 kilometers (80 miles) east of the state capital, Gauhati, when a mob accused the two men of trying to steal cows and began beating them with sticks and rocks. Police in the district said that by the time they reached the scene the men were already in critical condition, and were declared dead at a hospital. This is the third cow-related death in the country in the past month. On April 1, Pehlu Khan, a Muslim cattle trader, was lynched by a mob in the western state of Rajasthan as he transported cattle he had bought at an animal fair back to his home state of Haryana. Khan and his family were small dairy farmers.

India says Pakistan killed 2 Indian soldiers in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—Two Indian soldiers were killed Monday by rockets and mortars fired by Pakistan along the highly militarized de facto border that divides the disputed region of Kashmir between the nuclear-armed rivals, the Indian army said. Pakistani soldiers fired at two Indian positions southwest of the Line of Control in the Krishna Ghati sector, the army said in a statement. It said Pakistani soldiers also ambushed an Indian patrol operating between the two posts and mutilated the bodies of two Indian soldiers. The statement called the incident an "unprovoked" firing by Pakistani soldiers and said the "unsoldierly act" would be "appropriately responded." There was no immediate reaction from the Pakistani army.

Turbulence injures 27 on Aeroflot flight to Bangkok

BANGKOK (AP)—Twenty-seven people have been injured, several with suspected spinal damage, after an Aeroflot Boeing 777-300 on which they were travelling from Moscow to Bangkok hit strong turbulence. The Russian Embassy in Bangkok said in a statement that Flight SU270 hit an air pocket Monday on its approach to Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi Airport, and that those injured had not been wearing seat belts. A Russian diplomat who asked to be identified as the embassy duty officer said 15 remained hospitalized, but none had life-threatening injuries. According to a list issued by the embassy, all of the injured were all Russians ranging in age from about one to 69, except for three Thais.

Uber suspends driver in Australia over bomb plot allegation

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Uber says the ride-hailing company has suspended a driver in Australia while police investigate allegations he told a passenger he led an organization related to the Islamic State movement and planned to blow up Parliament House. The female passenger said Monday she caught an Uber from downtown Canberra early Sunday. She said the driver said he planned to blow up a shopping mall as well as Parliament House and told her he was not taking her to her home but to a town south of Canberra. The woman said she told the driver to pull over at a gas station so she could use a toilet. She called police and two police cars soon arrived. The driver was not arrested. Police say they are continuing to investigate with security agencies.

World

French election rallies on May Day bring insults, unrest

PARIS (AP)—Far-right leader Marine Le Pen and centrist Emmanuel Macron hunted working class votes Monday, entering the final week of an increasingly nasty campaign for president. Thousands across France celebrated May Day by showing their top concerns are jobs and the kind of country the next leader will give them.

Amid the holiday marches, masked demonstrators threw firebombs at police in Paris before being dispersed by tear gas. Four officers were injured, with one seriously burned in the face, Interior Minister Matthias Fekl said.

While violence from fringe groups is a standard presence in French demonstrations, at least some of those who mixed in the union-organized march came with an angry message against both candidates.

"Not one or the other; instead it's the people's self-defense" read one sign.

"Macron equals Louis XVI, Le Pen equals Le Pen," read another, a reference to Marine Le Pen's father, Jean-Marie, the co-founder of the anti-immigration National Front party known for his extremist views.

Sunday's runoff election is being watched closely by other European governments and financial markets to see if the French hand power to the populist Le Pen.

AP
Youths runs through tear gas during clashes as part of the May Day demonstration, Monday May 1, 2017, in Paris.

Mainstream parties on the left and right failed to form a bloc against her as they did in 2002 when Jean-Marie Le Pen was trounced by Jacques Chirac.

Addressing thousands at a venue outside Paris, Marine Le Pen skewered Macron, a former investment banker, as a puppet of financiers and Islamic fundamentalists, a lapdog of Socialist President Francois Hollande and a member of the "caviar left." His pro-business policies, she warned, would leave French workers hungry.

Cheers of "Marine President!" and anti-immigrant chants rose to the rafters.

Whether she wanted it or not, Le Pen got an endorsement from her father, Jean-Marie Le Pen, who co-founded the National Front party she now leads. The senior Le Pen has often been decried as a ractst; his daughter ejected him from the party in 2015 as part of her bid to make the National Front more politically acceptable.

"She is not Joan of Arc, but she accepts the same mission ... France," Jean-Marie Le Pen said at his traditional May Day rally.

He denounced the front-running Macron as a "masked Socialist" backed by the highly unpopular Hollande, who did not seek a second term. Macron once served as Hollande's economy minister.

Referring to France's stagnant economy and it jobless rate of about 10 percent, the elder Le Pen said of Macron: "He wants to dynamize the economy, but he is among those who dynamited it."

The 39-year-old Macron returned the insults at a Paris rally in front of thousands of supporters.

He criticized Marine Le Pen's "rude manners" and called her "the heir"—a reference to her father, who has been convicted of racism and anti-Semitism.

"Don't boo her, fight her! Go and convince (others), make her lose next Sunday," he told the crowd.

Macron is campaigning on pro-European, pro-free market, liberal views that could not be more different from with Le Pen's anti-globalization, anti-European Union stance. She calls Macron a member of the "oligarchy" that she says has turned France into a servant of EU bureaucrats, ruined the economy and destroyed its culture with "massive immigration" that also endangers society by failing to crack down on Islamic fundamentalists.

While Macron is favored in the polls, a high abstention rate or a blank protest ballot could help Le Pen.

Bit by bit, opposition is rising to Le Pen—from politicians, students, anti-racism groups and cultural representatives. However, there has been no alliance of left and right forces like that which elected the conservative Chirac in 2002.

Far-left candidate Jean-Luc Melenchon, eliminated in the first round on April 23, strongly opposes Le Pen but has refused to endorse Macron.

Some remain angry and fearful about the possibility of a Le Pen victory.

"It's facism, Naziism, homophobia, anti-Semitism: all her baggage and everything we've always been against and which scares me," said Pauline Davranche, 79, at pro-Macron rally of students and the CFDT national trade union.

Hungary: Protesters reject government's closer Russia links

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP)—Thousands of protesters in Hungary rejected the government's growing ties to Russia on Sunday, the 13th anniversary of Hungary's European Union membership.

Participants marched through downtown Budapest carrying Hungarian and European flags, shouting "Europe! Europe!" and reciting slogans against Prime Minister Viktor Orban's government. The Momentum Movement, a new political party, organized the event.

Orban is "driving the nation toward Moscow," party chairman Andras Fekete-Gyor said. "Instead of the rich, modern and free Europe, he sets the poor, oppressed and underdeveloped Russia as the example for our country."

In February, Russian President Vladimir Putin visited Hungary for the second time in two years. Critics say a draft law seen designed to stigmatize and intimidate civic groups that receive foreign funding is similar to a law Russia already has.

Moscow is also expanding Hungary's Soviet-built nuclear power plant while loaning Hungary 10 billion euros ($10.9 billion), about 80 percent of the project's cost. Hungary already depends on Russia for much of its imported oil and gas.

Fekete-Gyor also criticized the Hungarian government's "Let's Stop Brussels" campaign, which claims among other things that the EU wants Hungary to raise energy prices and take in potentially large numbers of illegal migrants.

The protest was the latest against Orban's government in recent weeks.

Previous demonstrations have been held over the new requirements for NGOs that receive foreign funding and against amendments to the country's higher education law that could lead to the move or closure of Budapest's Central European University.

The European Union, the Council of Europe, as well as the European People's Party to which Orban's Fidesz party belongs, have called on the government to stick to European rules and suspend or modify the both laws.

"The constant attacks on Europe, which Fidesz has launched for years, have reached a level we cannot tolerate," EPP president Joseph Daul said after meeting Orban in Brussels on Saturday.

Despite the protests, one of which attracted some 70,000 people, Fidesz retains a large lead in opinion polls one year ahead of the next parliamentary election.

Maduro decrees Venezuelans will write new constitution

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Venezuela's embattled president issued a decree Monday for writing a new constitution, ratcheting up a political crisis that has drawn hundreds of thousands of anti-government protesters into the streets.

President Nicolas Maduro gave no details on how members would be chosen for a planned citizen assembly to produce a new charter, though he hinted some would selected by voters. Many observers expect the socialist administration to give itself the power to pick a majority of delegates to the convention.

Opposition leaders immediately objected, charging that writing a new constitution would give Maduro an excuse to put off regional elections scheduled for this year and a presidential election that was to be held in 2018. Polling has suggested the socialists would lose both those elections badly amid widespread anger over Venezuela's economic woes.

Speaking hours after another big march demanding his ouster ended in clashes between police and protesters, Maduro said a new constitution is needed to restore peace and stop the opposition from trying to carry out a coup.

"This will be a citizens assembly made up of workers," Maduro said. "The day has come brothers. Don't fail me now. Don't fail (Hugo) Chavez and don't fail your motherland."

If the constitutional process goes forward, opposition leaders will need to focus on getting at least some sympathetic figures included in the citizens assembly. That could distract them from the drumbeat of near daily street protests that they have managed to keep up for four weeks, political analyst Luis Vicente Leon said.

"It's a way of calling elections that uses up energy but does not carry risk, because it's not a universal, direct and secret vote," Leon said. "And it has the effect of pushing out the possibility of elections this year and probably next year as well."

The constitution was last rewritten in 1999, early in the 14-year presidency of the late Hugo Chavez, who began Venezuela's socialist transformation.

The leader of the opposition-controlled National Assembly, Julio Borges, called the idea of a constitutional assembly a "giant fraud" by Maduro and his allies designed to keep them in power at any cost. Borges said it would deny Venezuelans the right to express their views at the ballot box, and he urged the military to prevent the "coup" by Maduro.

"What the Venezuelan people want isn't to change the constitution but to change Maduro through voting," he said at a news conference in eastern Caracas, where anti-government protesters once again clashed with police Monday.

Focus

Hamas rebrands itself in new manifesto, but OLD GOALS REMAIN

By FARES AKRAM and KARIN LAUB
Associated Press

AP

In this Dec. 18, 2016 file photo, masked militants from the Izzedine al-Qassam Brigades, a military wing of Hamas, attend the mourning ceremony for Mohammed Alzoari, a Tunisian aviation engineer who was shot dead in Tunisia, at the unknown soldier square in Gaza City.

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—The new political program of Hamas, published Monday, is meant to help the Islamic militant group break out of its international isolation. The manifesto does not formally replace the group's fiery 1987 founding charter, but adopts more conciliatory language, even if some goals remain unchanged—such as the eventual "liberation" of all of historic Palestine, including what is now Israel.

Here is a look at the program and the group behind it:

WHAT ARE THE MAIN POINTS?

The new program for the first time raises the possibility of establishing a Palestinian state in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and east Jerusalem, territories Israel captured in 1967. In the past, Hamas criticized its main rival, the Fatah party of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, for pursuing a two-state deal with Israel.

Even now, Hamas considers such a state as an interim step, not a way to end the conflict. The new document does not contain an explicit call for Israel's destruction, but says Hamas "rejects any alternative to the full liberation of Palestine, from the river to the sea." This refers to the area reaching from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea, which includes the lands that now make up Israel.

While the founding charter was filled with anti-Jewish references, the new document stresses that Hamas bears no enmity toward Jews. The group says its fight is with those who occupy Palestinian lands, regardless of religion.

In its founding charter, Hamas defined itself as a Palestinian branch of the pan-Arab, Egypt-based Muslim Brotherhood. The new program makes no reference to the Brotherhood. Instead, Hamas says it is a national, Islamic liberation movement.

In distancing itself from the Brotherhood, Hamas hopes to improve relations with Egypt which, along with Israel, has been enforcing a border blockade of the Gaza Strip since Hamas took control there a decade ago. Egypt has outlawed the Brotherhood as a terror group.

WHAT AND WHERE WAS IT UNVEILED?

It took Hamas four years of internal debate to draft the five-page document. It was presented Monday in Qatar by Khaled Mashaal, the long-time Hamas leader in exile. An English translation is to be made available on the Hamas website after Mashaal's announcement.

Separately, Mashaal is to step down as Hamas leader later this month after the group completes secret internal leadership elections. Two possible contenders for the No. 1 spot are Moussa Abu Marzouk, a former Hamas leader, and Ismail Haniyeh, a former top Hamas official in Gaza.

DOES IT GO FAR ENOUGH?

Observers say the changes don't appear to go far enough to break Hamas' isolation.

The old charter, which caused much of the world to shun the group, is not being replaced formally by the new document. Hamas officials have expressed concern that such a step could upset the group's hard-line base, particularly in Gaza. Instead, the two documents will exist side by side, with Hamas referring to the new one as more relevant.

AP

In this Dec. 8, 2012 file photo, Hamas chief Khaled Mashaal, left, and Hamas and Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh wave to Palestinian Hamas supporters during a rally to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Hamas militant group, in Gaza city.

The world wants to see Hamas recognize Israel, renounce violence and abide by interim peace agreements between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization. These were the conditions set by the international community when Hamas swept in the 2006 parliamentary elections.

WILL THIS HELP END THE INTERNAL PALESTINIAN SPLIT?

The program is being released at a time of escalating tensions between Gaza's Hamas rulers and Abbas, their main political rival. Abbas has warned he will exert more financial pressure, presumably in the form of cutbacks of wage payments and aid to Gaza, to force Hamas to cede ground there.

The new program is unlikely to change the fundamental rivalry, which erupted a decade ago, after Hamas seized Gaza from forces loyal to Abbas.

On Wednesday, Abbas is to hold his first White House meeting with President Donald Trump. In a sign of business as usual, Hamas has slammed Abbas' efforts to relaunch U.S.-led talks with Israel on setting up a Palestinian state as an attempt to liquidate the Palestinian cause.

WHO IS HAMAS?

The Sunni Muslim group was formed in December 1987 in Gaza, several days after the outbreak of the first Palestinian uprising against Israel's occupation. It called for armed resistance and for setting up an Islamic state in all of historic Palestine.

Hamas was involved in two Palestinian uprisings against Israel, along with other factions, using rocks, knife attacks and eventually shootings and bombings against Israeli soldiers and civilians. Over the past decades, it has also built a home-made arsenal of crude rockets that it has fired from Gaza at southern Israel. This has sparked three cross-border wars between Hamas and Israel.

Good Housekeeping

Enliven chicken, pork and beef with these sauces

By KAREN KANE
PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Done right, sauces, glazes, dressings, relishes, chutneys and salsas can amount to, ahhem, the icing on the cake of an otherwise humdrum meal.

Done smart, the transformation can be accomplished in a snap.

Leftover roast beef, pulled apart with forks, then dressed with sauce whipped up from ketchup, vinegar and brown sugar, creates the centerpiece of a second-day meal with a completely different flavor profile. It can be served as barbecued pulled beef with a crusty baguette and arugula salad topped with olive oil, salt, pepper and a crumble of blue cheese. Better yet, stuff the bread with the beef and salad, for a sandwich. Either way, no one will think leftovers.

Pick the bones of Sunday's roasted chicken dinner and then top the gleanings with a salsa of diced avocado mixed with minced red onion, chopped cilantro, fresh lime juice and salt. The combination can top a plateful of crispy tortilla chips that have been generously sprinkled with shredded cheddar cheese and popped into the oven for quick melting. Who doesn't like nachos?

Pull a pack of pork chops from the freezer, defrost in the microwave, pan-fry then plate them. De-glaze the pan with a splash of white wine, spoon in some apricot preserves or orange marmalade as well as a generous pat of salted butter. The sauce comes together before the chops even have a chance to cool off. With steamed broccoli on the side, the plate is a colorful clarion call to the dinner table.

A homemade accoutrement for any entree, even ones such as a grilled ribeye or seared sushi-grade tuna steak that stand tall on their own, will elevate the meal. It's all about layering.

And there's real science beneath it all. Just ask a scientist.

"Basically, what you're doing when you add a sauce is you're creating a scenario where more of the senses are stimulated," said Leslie J. Stein, the director of science communications for the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia.

There are five accepted taste qualities: sweet, sour, salty, bitter and umami.

If you serve roasted chicken for dinner, a bite of that meat will stimulate the senses of umami as well as salty, Stein said.

But, if you add a pan-Asian sweet-and-sour sauce to that same serving of chicken, the number of taste qualities doubles to include, yes, sweet and sour.

TNS
Clockwise from left: Spicy mango barbecue sauce, red wine sauce and peanut sauce.

TNS
Beef steak served with red wine sauce.

TNS
Pork chops with spicy mango barbecue sauce.

"You enhance your dinner with a far more complex flavor experience," she said.

Shift gears and add a spicy-and-sweet barbecue sauce to that chicken, you've layered your meal with chemethesis, which actually triggers the touch system of the body by activating the nerve endings in the mouth and nose with a kind of chemical burn. "It's technically not a taste quality, but you've got an extra sensory sensation. It's layering," she explained. Other examples of chemethesis is the tingle of carbonation and the burn of mint.

In sum, adding a sauce or a salsa or a glaze makes for a richer dining experience.

TASTE PRIMER

People detect five basic taste qualities — sweet, sour, bitter, salty and savory.

Each taste quality is stimulated by specific chemicals, which are recognized by receptors on cells located in taste buds within the mouth. Taste stimuli need to dissolve in saliva before they can be detected by the receptors. Dissolved chemical stimuli come into contact with receptors located at the tips of taste buds. Most taste buds are located in papillae — the small rounded bumps you see on the tongue's surface. Some taste buds are also found on the roof of the mouth, epiglottis and throat.

Most people like a sweet taste probably because the brain associates sweet taste with energy for the body.

Salty taste is thought to signal sodium, which is necessary for survival. The receptors for salty and sour tastes still are not well defined.

Taste can signal danger, as many poisons taste bitter. However, not all bitter-tasting foods are poisonous.

Savory also is known as umami, which translates to delicious essence in Japanese. Umami is the taste of glutamate, an amino acid found throughout the human body and in protein-containing foods. Glutamate elicits a sensation that often is described as brothy, full-bodied, meaty and savory. For a umami taste, think of chicken broth, a ripe beefsteak tomato or Parmesan cheese.

Spiciness of food is conveyed through a third sensory system known as chemical irritation. Chemical irritation is a warning system that tells us when the body's surface may be harmed from chemicals. This system involves the trigeminal nerve, which has thousands of nerve endings in the nose, mouth, throat and eyes. The nerve endings sense and respond to the sting of ammonia, the coolness of menthol and the burn of chili peppers or ginger. We often enjoy these sensations, as well as bubbly drinks, when the chemicals are present in small amounts.

Research at Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia has shown taste sensitivity and food preferences could change across the lifespan.

Although most people think that flavor is the same as taste, that's not true. The distinctive flavor of most foods and drinks comes more from smell than it does from taste. Sugar has a taste (sweet), but strawberry actually is a smell. An airway between the nose and mouth lets people combine aroma with the five basic tastes to enjoy thousands of flavors.

— From the Monell Chemical Senses Center

BEST PEANUT SAUCE

PG tested

This sauce is delicious with sushi-style summer rolls. You can use it for chicken or pork satay, as well.

1/2 cup crunchy peanut butter
2 tablespoons soy sauce
1 teaspoon white sugar
2 drops hot pepper sauce
1 clove garlic, minced
1/2 cup water

In a small bowl, stir together peanut butter, soy sauce, sugar, hot pepper sauce and garlic until well mixed. Gradually stir in water until texture is smooth and creamy.

— Allrecipes.com.

SPICY MANGO BARBECUE SAUCE

PG tested

This sauce made according to the directions would be a tasty go-to with any roasted meat and even fish. But, here's a cheat: Puree the mango to a chunky consistency and combine with your favorite bottled barbecue sauce, and it's yummy and easier yet.

1 medium mango, peeled and sliced
2 tablespoons olive oil
1/2 cup finely chopped onion
1 tablespoon chopped garlic
1 cup ketchup
1 tablespoon Dijon-style mustard
2 tablespoons corn syrup
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
1 teaspoon Tabasco sauce, or to taste
1 1/2 teaspoons lemon juice
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

Place mango in the bowl of a food processor and puree to a coarse texture.

In a saucepan, combine the olive oil, onion and garlic. Saute briefly over medium-high heat or until wilted. Add ketchup, mustard, corn syrup, sauces, lemon juice and seasoning, stir and bring to a simmer.

Cook for 5 minutes. Remove and let cool.

— Adapted from Pierre Franey in The New York Times (1995)

RED WINE SAUCE

PG tested

Is there anything better with beef than a classic red wine sauce? This is beautiful with fine steak and also leftover beef short ribs. Be forewarned, even with a half cup of wine, this sauce is very thick. If you want it runny, use a full cup of wine.

3 shallots
1 medium onion
1 oil-packed anchovy fillet
31/2 tablespoons salted butter
1/2 cup burgundy
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

Mince shallots, onion and anchovy in a food processor or by hand. Combine them in a medium bowl.

Heat butter in a skillet until melted. Add shallot mixture to the skillet. Cook over medium heat for about 6 minutes, until softened. Stir in wine. Once it starts to bubble at the edges, let it cook for about 2 minutes to form a slightly thickened sauce. Add salt and pepper to taste.

FYI: If frying a steak, prepare sauce in the same pan in which the steak was fried so the brown bits can be deglazed to become part of the sauce.

— Adapted from "Simply Delicious," by Paul Bocuse (Flammarion; 2015)

QUICK & EASY

There's no sense in buying condiments when they can be made at home for pennies.

Cocktail sauce: Straight-up horseradish from a jar plus bottled ketchup make a tasty cocktail sauce. If you have a lemon, give a squeeze into this concoction. If you have some hot sauce, add a drop or two. But, just horseradish and ketchup will do the job. It's wonderful with fried salmon patties.

Horseradish-cream sauce: Add a couple of forkfuls of jarred horseradish to a cup or so of mayonnaise. Season with black pepper. If you have heavy, light or whipping cream, you can use it to thin the sauce. If not, milk is fine. Mix a teaspoon or two into mashed potatoes and serve with steak.

Honey-mustard dipping sauce: Combine equal parts mayonnaise and yellow mustard with a bit of runny honey, salt and pepper, all to taste. This is good on grilled cheese, with chicken tenders and cubes of cheese.

Tartar sauce: Mix a little bit of jarred sweet pickle relish and dash of ketchup into some mayo for a tasty sauce. It pairs wells with baked haddock.

Barbecue sauce: Combine ketchup with equal parts vinegar and something sweet — honey, corn syrup, molasses or brown sugar. Season with salt and pepper, and a squeeze of lemon if you have it. Want it spicy? Add red pepper flakes or hot sauce. Pour it over meatloaf or combine with chipped ham.

Life & Style

This image released by Disney-Marvel shows Zoe Saldana, from left, Karen Gillan, Chris Pratt, Dave Bautista and Rocket, voiced by Bradley Cooper, in a scene from, "Guardians Of The Galaxy Vol. 2."

AP

The heart behind the vision of 'Guardians of the Galaxy 2'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Guardians of the Galaxy" was just the warm-up.

Two years ago, writer and director James Gunn and his cranky, lovable band of multihued misfits in space seemed like a sort of gamble for the Earth-bound Marvel Studios and its ever-growing plans for total multiplex domination. Star Lord wasn't exactly a household name, and neither was Chris Pratt.

Now as "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" prepares for launch in North American theaters on Friday, the story is quite different. "Guardians of the Galaxy" was a huge critical and financial success, grossing over $773 million worldwide, Pratt became an international star, and Gunn was given the greenlight to do what he wanted once more—making "Vol. 2" as weird and wild and idiosyncratic as his imagination would allow. Many reviewers have already called "Vol. 2" better than the first, the monosyllabic Baby Groot is already a breakout star, and it's headed for a possible $140 million to $150 million opening weekend.

"So many sequels are not good," Gunn said. "We really tried to let these characters grow and change. ... I didn't want it to be a rehash of the first movie."

Gunn likes to say that "Vol. 2" is an adventure film, a comedy and a space opera tied up into one brightly colored package, but that at its core, it's a family melodrama. A lot of big action and sci-fi films claim to be about family—whether it's the people you're tied to by blood or the ones you choose—but it's often a lot of talk. "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" might have a talking tree and a wise-cracking, machine gun-toting raccoon and an unparalleled glee for the art of teasing, but it's also got a big, beating heart that actually hit quite close to home for both Pratt and Gunn.

Pratt's Star Lord/Peter Quill meets his father Ego (Kurt Russell) for the first time in "Guardians 2" after a lifetime of explaining away his absence telling people that his father was David Hasselhoff, while being raised by the scoundrel Ravager, Yondu (Michael Rooker).

A lot of the story, which also includes a sisterly rivalry that has veered into the murderous zone, is drawn from Gunn's relationship with his father, a recovering alcoholic who has been sober for 20 years, and what he calls his big, lovingly dysfunctional Irish Catholic family. And even though it's his life on the page, there was one person he needed to get to sign off from first: Pratt.

Pratt's father died in 2014 after battling multiple sclerosis for years—a condition the once hard-working, tough love, man's man Dan Pratt refused to treat. In 2015, Pratt told GQ magazine that it eventually led to him splitting up with his mother and living out the rest of his days in front of the television in assisted living.

"(Chris) was the first person I told it to, that's for sure. When I came up with the story, Chris came over to my house and I said, 'OK, here's what I'm thinking about,'" Gunn said. "I wanted to make sure he was onboard with it because, I mean, there's a lot of personal stuff there. I wanted to make sure he was cool with it."

Pratt said he related to the story a lot. His dad, he said, was not dissimilar to Yondu in the way he showed love. Cat Stevens' "Fathers and Sons" even plays at a pivotal moment.

"All of it is completely honest and true even though it's about aliens," Gunn said. "It is honest and true stuff about human beings and the way we interact and how we have a hard time accepting love from other human beings."

This little cobbled-together family is not disbanding yet, either. Gunn, who has done nothing else but work with these characters for the past five years of his life, will continue stewarding the Guardians through their trials in "Avengers: Infinity War," where he says they are "supporting characters but not small roles." He's also signed on for "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3," which will close out that series and launch Marvel into its next decade.

"With the first movie, James earned Disney's trust," Pratt said recently. "On the second movie he was like, 'I'm going to do whatever I want with all of your money.' And they said, 'OK.' And he made the craziest movie."

Gunn even said he was a little timid on the first film, but not anymore.

"I'm a little punk rock kid who likes edgy stuff. I thought what I liked might not be what the entire world likes," Gunn said. "But I've come to trust that what I like works."

5 things you don't know about Baby Groot of 'Guardians'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Baby Groot was "born" at the end of the first "Guardians of the Galaxy" film, and the extraterrestrial, treelike creature is a tiny, scene-stealing superhero in "Vol. 2."

Voiced by Vin Diesel, the computer-generated character usually says just one thing—"I am Groot"—but it means everything, and his intergalactic comrades always seem to understand his (often foul-mouthed) message.

Groot—regenerated from the massive tree-like character in the first film—can grow his arms and legs into twisted branches that can open doors and drawers and pull him into and out of tight spots, but here are five things you don't know about the woodsy humanoid:

1 Groot apparently took on various duties behind the camera. Stay tuned through the closing credits of "Guardians, Vol. 2" to spot Groot's "contributions" throughout. Groot's name appears throughout the credits—in graphics, special effects and various other departments—which are worth sitting through for the inevitable Marvel movie-ending "Easter eggs" that hint at future action.

2 Baby Groot is an unofficial Earth Day ambassador. Marvel, which considers Groot to be "the galaxy's top tree," joined with the Disney Conservation Fund and the Nature Conservancy to plant a tree every time the hashtag #GrootDanceBomb shows up on social media. Marvel aims to donate $250,000 by the time the film opens Friday.

AP

This image released by Disney-Marvel shows the character Groot, voiced by Vin Diesel, in a scene from, "Guardians Of The Galaxy Vol. 2."

3 Baby Groot's sweet appearance belies his terrible temper. "He's completely adorable, but has a lot more anger issues than adult Groot did," says writer-director James Gunn.

4 Co-starring alongside actors Dave Bautista and Chris Pratt, who both stand over 6 feet, Baby Groot proved to be a challenge for the cinematographers framing the shots. They used a sculpture of the 10-inch diminutive character, which was created entirely in CGI for the film, and special camera rigging to capture Baby Groot's perspective amid the other superheroes.

5 Franchise star Pratt, who plays Guardians leader Star-Lord, knew early on in the filming that he could be upstaged by his tiny co-star. During the opening sequence, while the Guardians battle a massive, multi-jawed space slug, the camera stays focused on a dancing Baby Groot in the foreground. Gunn recalled Pratt looking over at the sculpture of Groot in the scene and saying, "Damn it, he's going to steal the whole movie."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Bayless wins restaurant, Solomonov best chef at Beard Awards

CHICAGO (AP)—Chef Michael Solomonov of Zahav in Philadelphia took home the outstanding chef award Monday night at the James Beard Awards, and Chicago's Rick Bayless' high-end Mexican eatery Topolobampo won the outstanding restaurant honor. Another Philadelphia foodie—Stephen Starr of Starr Restaurants—won the outstanding restaurateur award at a ceremony many consider the Oscars of the culinary world. Bayless has won many Beard honors over the last 26 years, including outstanding chef in 1995 and Humanitarian of the Year in 1998.

Fox News co-president Bill Shine is out

NEW YORK (AP)—Fox News Channel said Monday that co-president Bill Shine is out, the latest high-level departure at a network beset with charges of harassment and discrimination that have already claimed founding CEO Roger Ailes, leading personality Bill O'Reilly and a top financial executive. Shine was not accused of any direct wrongdoing. But the longtime Ailes lieutenant was considered vulnerable because of claims that he looked the other way as charges of toxic workplace behavior piled up, with some believing that the network would never truly be able to move on without him and other Ailes loyalists.

Kelly's new guy: Ryan Seacrest joins "Live" show as host

NEW YORK (AP)—Taking a full year to name a replacement for Michael Strahan beside Kelly Ripa on the morning chat show "Live" paid off in a big way for producers, who roped in Ryan Seacrest as co-host. The former "American Idol" host debuted Monday on show, giving Ripa a marquee name to banter with at when she is about to go head-to head with Megyn Kelly on NBC's "Today" show. The stretch of guest co-hosts dragged on so long that there were rumors Ripa was more interested in going it alone than in finding a regular to join her.

Eminem lawsuit against New Zealand political party begins

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—They may not have lost themselves in the music or the moment but a judge and nine lawyers in a New Zealand courtroom did listen politely to Eminem's "Lose Yourself" as a copyright trial involving the country's ruling political party began Monday. The Detroit-based music publishers for Eminem are suing New Zealand's conservative National Party, alleging the soundtrack for a 2014 election campaign ad copied the rapper's acclaimed 2002 song. Titled "Eminem Esque," the track has the familiar urgent, pulsing beat of the original.

Tomi Lahren settles lawsuit against Beck, The Blaze

DALLAS (AP)—Conservative talk show host Tomi Lahren has agreed to a settlement that ends her lawsuit against Glenn Beck and his online platform, The Blaze.

The lawsuit filed in Dallas, Texas, had alleged wrongful termination. Lahren was ousted from her program after she said she was in favor of abortion rights while appearing on ABC's "The View" on March 17.

In a statement issued Monday, Lahren's attorney, Brian Lauten, said his client had been released from her employment contract that denied her access to the Facebook page The Blaze had set up for her. He says that page and its millions of followers now belong to Lahren.

In return, the conservative talker must remove videos she made for The Blaze from the page and return them.

Other terms remain confidential.

Netflix responds to '13 Reasons' critics with more warnings

NEW YORK (AP)—Netflix is responding to critics of its new show "13 Reasons Why" by adding more warnings for viewers about graphic content.

The 13-episode drama, co-produced by actress and singer Selena Gomez, is based on Jay Asher's young-adult 2007 best-seller about a high school student who kills herself and leaves behind 13 audiotapes detailing the events that led to her death, including sexual assault, substance abuse and bullying.

The show is rated TV-MA and three episodes that contain explicit material have "viewer discretion advised" warnings. Mental health experts wanted more advisories shown.

Netflix said Monday it has now added a warning before the first episode and "also strengthened the messaging and resource language in the existing cards for episodes that contain graphic subject matter."

The Met Gala: Rihanna encased in petals, Zendaya in parrots

NEW YORK (AP)—The color red made a dramatic show Monday night in the grand parade of fashion at the Met Gala, including co-chair Katy Perry's look, as did glittery gold and blue feathers on the back of Blake Lively. But many of the evening's highlights were courtesy of luminaries who channeled honoree Rei Kawakubo, including Rihanna encased in fluttery petal-like pieces by the Japanese designer.

Rihanna gestured to the crowd from the carpet in her Commes des Garcons look with stagey pink on her cheeks. Her look was two pieces and a sliver of stomach peeked out from the freewheeling design.

Perry wore a veiled dress created just for her by John Galliano, while Pharrell's wife, Helen Lasichanh, wore one of Kawakubo's avant-garde, bulbous and armless jumpsuits. Lively's movie star gown with the feathered train was Versace.

While some of the celebs from the worlds of film, TV, fashion, sports and music were inspired by Kawakubo, others made a splash in more classic looks, including Jennifer Lopez in 1950s elegance, a baby blue Valentino gown by Pierpaolo Piccioli.

Perry wore a silver head piece and black accents around the eyes with an embroidered wool coat layered over a red tulle and silk chiffon dress, her sleeves elongated in a nod to Kawakubo, all by Maison Margiela Artisanal.

Music mogul Diddy, meanwhile, laid down on the carpet to watch girlfriend Cassie pose in a black gown with a huge, spikey train she wore with large, glittery ear cuffs. He wore an embellished cape in a spider web design that carried over to his Rick Owens tuxedo.

AP

Rihanna attends The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute benefit gala celebrating the opening of the Rei Kawakubo/Comme des Garçons: Art of the In-Between exhibition on Monday, May 1, 2017, in New York.

"It took a half-hour to get ready. We dress like this on the weekends," he joked.

Speaking of the weekend, Selena and her date—The Weeknd—smooched on the carpet in a classic white, delicately embellished gown from Coach designer Stuart Vevers.

Madonna went for green camo from Moschino, Tracee Ellis Ross in royal blue Comme des Garcons and Kim Kardashian West—without husband Kanye West—in understated, long-sleeve white from Vivienne Westwood.

Nicki Minaj, in a black bustier romper with a huge black-and-red cape from H&M, is a pro when it comes to arrivals.

"I stood up in the van the whole way," she said of her trip to the Met in her larger-than-life ensemble.

Missing from the carpet: Stalwarts Sarah Jessica Parker, Beyonce and Lady Gaga.

Serena Williams in green Versace put in her first carpet appearance since announcing her pregnancy. Kylie Jenner was whisked up the stairs in a revealing sheer gold Atelier Versace gown, her platinum locks styled closed to her head. Sister Kendall Jenner stunned in a revealing black look covered in 85,000 hand-painted crystals from La Perla Creative Director Julia Haart. It included a wide diagonal slit from shoulder to below the waist and took more than 160 hours of work by 26 craftsmen in five cities, the designer said in a statement.

Lasichanh, her blond hair high on her head, smiled from within her signature Kawakubo suit. Claire Danes also channeled the Japanese designer, whose work is featured in the Metropolitan Museum Costume Institute's spring exhibition, "Rei Kawakubo/Comme des Garcons: Art of the In-Between." The sleeves of Dane's flurry of ruffles in a white blouse extended well beyond her hands, paired with a simple pair of black pants.

Vogue's Anna Wintour kicked off the star-studded gala a bit earlier as one of the evening's co-host. The gala feeds the annual budget of the Costume Institute. Wintour opted for encrusted gold and ostrich feathers from Chanel and said of Kawakubo and her brand: "She's a genius. Not only does she think outside of the box, she doesn't acknowledge the box."

Alec Baldwin to headline New Jersey political event

COLLINGSWOOD, N.J. (AP)—Alec Baldwin, who has won acclaim for his portrayal of President Donald Trump on "Saturday Night Live," will be headlining a New Jersey political fundraiser.

General Majority PAC says in an invitation that the actor will appear next month at the $2,500-a-head event in Collingswood.

The group has spent millions of dollars backing Democratic candidates in state legislative races. Democrats control both chambers in the Legislature.

Influential New Jersey Democratic power broker George Norcross and his brother, Democratic U.S. Rep. Donald Norcross, are expected to attend the event, along with state Senate President Steve Sweeney and Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto.

General Majority PAC was bankrolled by the state's largest teachers union, the New Jersey Education Association, in the 2015 Assembly elections where Democrats gained seats.

Mom's past relationship is subject of sons' curiosity

DEAR ABBY: When I was a young, newly divorced, single mother, I returned to college. There I met a woman in similar circumstances. We became fast friends, decided to pool our resources while we pursued higher education and moved in together. Over time, the friendship became more than platonic.

This was my first experience with same-sex relationships, and I loved her deeply. We had six years together, but ultimately it didn't work out and we moved on. I have been in a committed marriage all these years since.

Recently, her now-grown sons called me to "catch up." During the course of the conversation, they asked me if their mother and I had had an intimate relationship. I didn't know what to say. My ex became very religious after our split and has never openly acknowledged (that I know of) the nature of our relationship.

It's certainly not my story to tell, but I didn't know how to respond to her sons without telling a blatant lie or giving an answer that would verify their suspicions. So I faked losing the phone connection to keep from answering. What should I do the next time they call?

ANCIENT HISTORY IN ARIZONA

DEAR ANCIENT HISTORY: Do not "out" her to her sons. The next time they call, if that question is asked again, handle it with a laugh and say they should take their questions about their mother's sex life directly to her. Period!

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I recently had a baby and gained 25 pounds. My husband and I decided to go on a post-baby diet, which includes cutting out carbs and sugar. Over the past month, he has lost about 15 pounds; I lost eight.

The problem is, he is constantly talking about our diet. He dictates everything we eat, although he refuses to cook. He also wants to know my exact weight to see how I'm doing. Abby, I'm too embarrassed to tell him my weight as I'm a few pounds heavier than he is.

Why doesn't he understand that weighing me is very embarrassing? He constantly tells me he loves me and wants to help me live a healthy lifestyle. I should also mention that I have suffered from emotional eating my entire life.

NOT WANTING TO WEIGH IN

DEAR NOT WANTING TO WEIGH IN: The person determining your post-baby diet should not be your husband; it should be your doctor or a licensed nutritionist. Your husband may be well-meaning, but what he is doing is counterproductive. When emotional eaters are stressed, they eat! Please schedule an appointment with your physician and your spouse to talk about what's going on because it is not healthy for you or your marriage.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I raised all five of my children without much help from their deadbeat dad, who was never around. They are grown now. I am still single and barely making a living.

All of my kids live around the Dallas area. I don't. Where I live is working for me because I have jobs, but I want to be near them. Should I throw away what I have to go and be near them, or stay where I am financially stable? I love my children so much.

LONESOME MOM

DEAR LONESOME MOM: Unless you are sure you can find work in the Dallas area, you should not relocate. It would make more sense for you to discuss this with your children and encourage them to visit you more often, if it's feasible.

DEAR ABBY
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

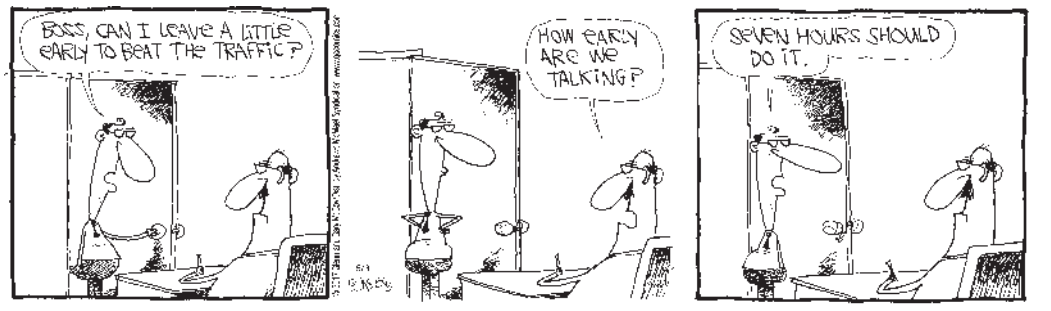
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

HEY! THIS DIET APP WORKS! I'M DOWN A COUPLE POUNDS!
OF COURSE I WORK.
TWO POUNDS! THANKS, APP! CAN I CALL YOU APPY?
I WISH YOU WOULDN'T.
THIS IS ACTUALLY KIND OF FUN. LIKE A WEIGHT-LOSS GAME.
WHAT SAY I TAKE YOU FOR A CELEBRATORY MILKSHAKE?
DO IT AND I UPLOAD YOUR BROWSER HISTORY TO FACEBOOK.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Dine
4 Wise one
8 — salad
12 Numerical prefix
13 Eager
14 Cameo shape
15 Billboards
16 Prophetic leader
18 Tropical fruit
20 Shade tree
21 Bygone Peruvian
24 Believer of a sort
28 Related to cooking
32 Terse denial
33 Grenada gold
34 Top grade
36 Wee bit
37 Awe-struck
39 Theologian's school
41 Ohio city
43 "The Lion King" lioness
44 Wildebeest
46 Rife with foliage
50 Fanciful
55 Privy
56 Author Bellow
57 Mosque VIP
58 Saute
59 Scouting outing
60 Carton sealer
61 Commotion

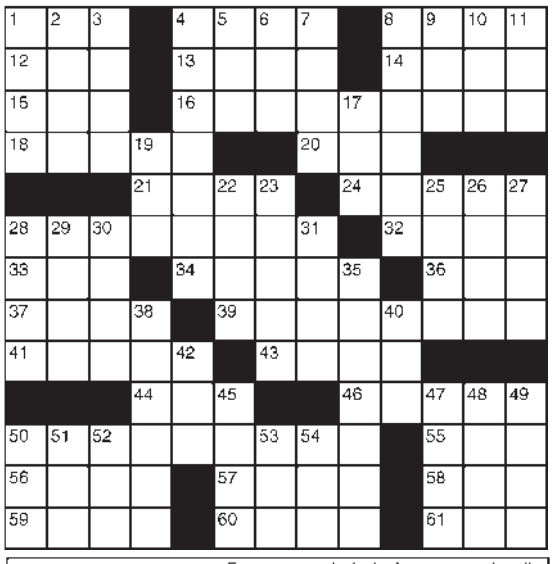
DOWN

1 Men-only
2 Pakistani language
3 Tower city
4 African grassland
5 Bird (Pref.)
6 USO audience
7 Actress Falco
8 Swindlers
9 Eggs
10 Tavern
11 Journalist Nellie
17 Ancient
19 Half of XIV
22 Beanies
23 "Over the Rainbow" composer
25 Tittle
26 Luminary
27 Neat
28 Cajole
29 Desire
30 Lake bird
31 Arizona tribe
35 "What a fool I am!"
38 Nervous laugh
40 Scot's denial
42 Violinist Kavafian
45 Squad
47 — Romeo
48 Nixon successor
49 Toy on a string
50 Somewhat (Suff.)
51 Avril follower
52 Arctic seabird
53 Docs' org.
54 Knock

Solution time: 23 mins.

N	A	R	C	■	E	R	I	C	■	W	A	C
C	V	E	R	■	V	I	S	A	■	A	S	H
I	A	X	L	E	X	E	M	P	I	■	X	I
■	■	■	W	E	R	E	■	A	M	M	A	N
T	A	M	E	D	■	■	■	A	L	O	J	■
U	R	A	L	■	C	O	M	P	O	S	E	R
F	I	X	■	H	A	V	E	A	■	F	A	U
T	A	F	F	E	T	A	S	■	S	J	R	E
■	■	■	A	R	L	O	■	■	T	E	M	P	S
R	E	C	A	P	■	A	A	R	E	■	■	■
A	P	T	■	F	A	X	N	U	M	B	E	R
N	E	O	■	U	N	I	T	■	L	O	G	E
D	E	R	■	I	F	S	S	■	Y	C	G	A

Yesterday's answer 5-3



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Cheryl Burke, 33; Christina Hendricks, 42; Dule Hill, 42; Kristin Lehman, 45.

Happy Birthday: Look at the big picture and it will help you avoid getting trapped in a stagnant position this year. Break out of your normal pattern and give some thought to doing things differently if it will help you avoid the same old routine. Change can be good if your motives are clear and your plans concise. Keep life simple and uncomplicated. Your numbers are 2, 8, 17, 25, 31, 33, 45.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Get involved in events that are conducive to showing off what you have to offer. Setting a high standard will give you an important place in the pecking order. Play to win and you will have no regrets. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Deal with emotional situations with intelligence and a well-thought-out plan. Don't labor over what others do when you should be more concerned about your own doings. Live life your way and you will have no regrets. ✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Don't let what happens in your personal life interfere with your professional goals. Stay focused and deal with matters that will ensure you continue to get ahead. Don't give in to emotional manipulation. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Call in favors and it will make a difference to the outcome of a deal or project that concerns you. The chance to show off your talents will encourage positive responses from people who hadn't previously shown any interest. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Don't hesitate to bring about changes that will put you in a good professional position. A boost to your reputation could bring positive new opportunities. Express your interest and desire to take on new responsibilities. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Investments, health and legal agreements should be looked at carefully and put to rest. Don't feel the need to do the same things others do. Make up your mind based on the facts you gather and what works for you. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* You've got to follow your heart as well as your head when dealing with partnerships. Don't let anyone push you into something that puts a strain on your relationships, your wallet or your physical well-being. Take responsibility for your actions. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Developing situations regarding work and money will give you an opportunity to make some last-minute changes. Contracts will not be as they appear. Go over minor details and make reasonable adjustments. Your insight will be respected. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Travel, communication and education are all featured. Sign up for something informative that includes people who have something to offer. Sharing ideas and concerns will put you in a favorable position. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Question anything that causes doubt. It's better to get the lowdown before making a commitment to something or someone who is likely to disappoint you. Look out for yourself, your loved ones and your money. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Take care of relationship issues so that you can move forward peacefully. Working alongside someone special will help you overlook any problems you have had with other collaborators. An investment opportunity looks auspicious. Celebrate with someone you love. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Be careful how you deal with your peers. Someone will question you if you don't play fair. Take a closer look at what's involved in a joint venture and the best way to maintain equality. Don't attempt something that is beyond your capabilities. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are emotional, spontaneous and forceful. You are steadfast and true blue.

Eugenia's websites -- eugenialast.com for Ask Eugenia, daily timing and compatibility services, and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	6	1	4	3	7			
	4		2			6		
2				6			3	
9				1			5	
8	3	7	9	5			6	
	1	5	3				8	
							9	
							7	
				7	5	1	4	8

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/03

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

7	3	9	4	6	8	2	1	5
4	2	8	5	7	1	3	9	6
5	6	1	2	3	9	4	8	7
6	7	5	9	1	4	8	3	2
2	9	4	3	8	5	6	7	1
8	1	3	7	2	6	5	4	9
1	8	7	6	5	3	9	2	4
9	5	2	8	4	7	1	6	3
3	4	6	1	9	2	7	5	8

Difficulty Level ★★

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

BEDROOM VANITIES Solution: 7 letters

R	E	E	N	E	V	L	E	G	S	T	L	R	M	M
T	M	A	H	O	G	A	N	Y	N	E	A	S	A	A
F	U	R	N	I	T	U	R	E	T	D	T	K	R	P
I	F	N	Y	D	R	R	C	I	E	A	E	S	B	L
N	R	B	L	R	I	C	H	C	I	U	M	L	L	E
E	E	E	C	A	A	W	Ⓞ	N	P	I	A	H	E	V
D	P	N	H	E	W	R	E	Ⓐ	R	C	C	S	S	I
E	M	C	E	G	N	D	O	R	Ⓚ	R	E	I	C	T
Z	A	H	R	A	A	I	O	P	I	W	L	L	I	A
I	L	O	R	T	K	R	P	B	M	E	B	Y	T	R
N	G	L	Y	N	B	R	O	N	Z	E	A	T	E	O
A	L	D	O	I	R	E	G	A	R	O	T	S	M	C
G	A	B	S	V	I	C	T	O	R	I	A	N	S	E
R	S	E	L	D	N	A	H	A	R	D	W	O	O	D
O	S	S	E	R	P	S	E	N	G	O	L	O	C	C

©2017 Andrews McMeel www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 5/3

Accent, Bench, Birch, Black, Bronze, Cedar, Chair, Cherry, Cologne, Contemporary, Cosmetics, Decorative, Espresso, Fine, Furniture, Glam, Glass, Handles, Hardwood, Hold, Knobs, Legs, Mahogany, Makeup, Maple, Marble, Metal, Mirror, Oak, Organized, Perfume, Pine, Sets, Stained, Storage, Stylish, Table, Veneer, Victorian, Vintage, Walnut, White

Yesterday's Answer: A-wop-bop-a-loo-bop

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

LOOKING FOR HOUSE

Looking to buy or long term lease house/apartment. Will pay cash. Call for Zheng at 287-7676.

FOR SALE

Piano for sale: A gorgeous Young Chang upright piano for sale. C-110 in good condition, has a smooth touch and good sound. (Contact # 484-5234)

www.saipantribune.com

LOOKING FOR SURROGATES

American Couples and Non-American Couples are seeking your help to fulfill their dream to have a child. If you are female between the ages of 21 and 40, have had at least one natural child birth, and are interested in learning more about being a surrogate, please contact Evelyn @ 322-0419. Compensation is over $22,000. Can also receive $500 for referral of qualified candidate.

share the power of a wish.
MAKE-A-WISH
Visit us at: Make-A-Wish Guam
590 South Marine Corps Drive. ITC Bldg, Suite 109
Tamuning, GU 9691303507
Tel: (670) 483-9474 • Email: info@guam.wish.org
www.guam.wish.org
Saipan Tribune

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9715 Facsimile (670)236-9702

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-JUDICIARY-04
SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 5, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A CLASS "G" VEHICLE (4X4 Pick-up Truck) FOR THE CNMI Judiciary, Judicial Administrative Office"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
JUDICIARY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION TITLE: Program Coordinator

SCHEDULE: Full-Time
7:30am-4:30pm

OPENING DATE: May 3, 2017

CLOSING DATE: May 19, 2017

ADDRESS: Family Violence Task Force
c/o P. O. Box 503019
Saipan, MP 96950

PHYSICAL LOCATION:
Lugat Pas Office
Yap Court Building#1233
Capitol Hill

SALARY: $30,000 per annum

Job Summary:
This position is under the supervision of the Chairperson of the Family Violence Task Force (FVTF) in accordance with the Bylaws of the CNMI FVTF.

The Program Coordinator is responsible in providing administrative support for the FVTF members to improve interagency communications and to address the issues of domestic and family violence, teen dating violence, sexual assault and stalking by a family or a household member including coordinated efforts to provide multi-disciplinary response services.

QUALIFICATIONS:
College graduate (BA/BS) with major in social work, administration, social sciences or related field. Equivalent education or experience considered. At least four years' experience working in social services. The applicant must have working knowledge with computers as well as experience in database management and administration of local or wide area networks. Experience in community organization preferred.

Note: The application form must be filled out in full and failure to provide complete application form or the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.

Interested applicants should pick up an application form together with the job description at the Lugat Pas Office on Capitol Hill Yap Court Building #1233. Application and Resume must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on the closing date. All applicants must turn in a completed and signed application for consideration. For more information, please visit or call our office at (670) 664-4583.

Aon Insurance Micronesia Inc.

is in need of the following positions:

Office Manager (Saipan)

- Ability to lead successful insurance team in Saipan.
- Excellent people management & communication skills
- Ability to manage & grow client relationships
- College Degree desired (Business)
- Insurance Experience a plus

Customer Service Representative

- High school diploma is required and some college preferred
- Strong selling skills
- Strong organizational skills including time management
- Assertive and motivating individual
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- P&C Insurance License or insurance experience preferred

Qualified applicants may submit their resume and credentials to mike.conner@aon.com
No Phone Calls Please.

AON
An Equal Opportunity Employer.

WHATZIT Solution: Light at the end of the tunnel

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

TUNNEL

WHATZIT™ & 20-7 www.whatzit.com
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Rockets' 22 3-pointers dismantle Spurs, 126-99 in Game 1

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—The Houston Rockets were willing to take whatever the Spurs gave them in Game 1 of the Western Conference semifinals.

Houston ended up with a record-setting offensive performance, a huge boost in confidence and home-court advantage.

Trevor Ariza scored 23 points, James Harden added 20 points and 14 rebounds, and the Rockets stormed past San Antonio 126-99 on Monday night, the Spurs' worst loss in a series opener under Gregg Popovich.

"Just taking what the defense gives us," Harden said. "Last series (against Oklahoma City) was a more grind-it-out. We weren't really making a lot of 3s. We had to figure a way to get paint points and in this series so far they gave opportunities to shoot 3s."

The Rockets were 22 for 50 behind the arc, the most 3s attempted and made against the Spurs in their long postseason history.

Houston had six players in double figures, including 20 points and 13 rebounds from Clint Capela.

"They came out ready, they outplayed us tonight," said Spurs forward LaMarcus Aldridge, who was held to four points. "They made most of their shots. Guys competed, but I thought we made mistakes early. They took advantage of it. Once they had offensive rhythm they were rolling. And we never really found ours."

Game 2 is Wednesday in San Antonio.

Houston led by as many as 39 points, including a 30-point lead in the first half, in the opener of the first series between the rivals since the Rockets' victory in the 1995 Western Conference finals.

AP

Houston Rockets guard James Harden (13) drives around San Antonio Spurs guard Manu Ginobili (20) during the first half in a second-round NBA playoff series basketball game, Monday, May 1, 2017, in San Antonio.

While the hot shooting wasn't completely unexpected from the explosive Rockets, the defense was. Houston was active in rotating to San Antonio's shooters and had both defenders stay on Kawhi Leonard on screens.

Leonard had 21 points, fighting his way to 5-for-14 shooting.

Tony Parker added 11 points and Jonathon Simmons had 10 for the Spurs.

"Obviously, we are really happy with our defense and what we did," Rockets coach Mike D'Antoni said. "Knowing that this was kind of abnormal, they are not going to miss shots like that."

Houston led 69-39 lead in the first half, the Spurs' largest halftime deficit under Popovich.

"They came out hot tonight and we just have to do a better job defensively," Leonard said. "We kind of got stagnant there a little bit. I give my hats to them, they played a great game."

Popovich called a timeout 80 seconds into the game, berating David Lee for a missed defensive assignment that led to a 3-pointer.

It didn't help.

Houston hit 12 3-pointers in the first half, the most San Antonio has allowed to a playoff opponent in the opening two quarters.

Cavaliers 116, Raptors 1-5

In Cleveland, LeBron James resisted drinking some beer. He downed the Raptors again instead.

James grabbed a bottle of beer on the sideline while scoring 35 points, Kyrie Irving added 24 and the Cleveland Cavaliers picked up where they left off following a long layoff and throttled Toronto 116-105 on Monday night in the opener of their Eastern Conference semifinal.

The Cavs hadn't played since April 23, when they completed a four-game sweep of Indiana. But the defending champions didn't show signs of rust and were well-prepared to face the revenge-seeking Raptors, who lost to Cleveland in last year's conference finals.

"That was the mystery coming into the game, how we would come out?" James said. "Obviously you prepare, you want to come out and play well, but you never know after an eight-day layoff. But the energy was phenomenal."

Toronto dropped to 1-12 in playoff openers, and the Raptors got blown out in the playoffs for the fourth straight time in Cleveland.

Game 2 is Wednesday night.

Kyle Lowry scored 20 and DeMar DeRozan 19 for the Raptors, who were within seven in the third quarter before James dropped a 3-pointer, converted a three-point play, drained another 3 and then considered washing down a brew—a moment he said wasn't planned.

After drawing a foul on a missed layup, James playfully hopped toward the sideline, where a courtside server was passing by. The three-time champion reached and grabbed a beer bottle from her hand and brought it toward his lips before putting it back.

"I wasn't going to run over our beer lady," he said. "She had one and I grabbed it. I'm not a beer guy. If she had some red wine I would have probably taken a sip."

With trade acquisitions Serge Ibaka and P.J. Tucker, this Toronto team seemed better equipped to beat Cleveland than the one which lost in six games in last year's playoffs.

Trouble is, James only seems to be getting better and the Cavs are gaining speed.

"They were well-rested, flying around—almost like a half a step quicker than we were all night," said Toronto coach Dwane Casey. "We've got to make adjustments as far as how we want to guard the paint and then get out to the 3. Offensively, get cleaner looks."

Before the game, Casey talked about the big comebacks that have been a theme in these playoffs. The Raptors blew a 25-point lead to Milwaukee in the first round, while the Cavs overcame a 25-point deficit and pulled off the biggest second-half rally in playoff history.

"There's no lead safe in the NBA," he said.

That's what happened to the Cavs in the first half as they built an 18-point lead only to watch the Raptors go on a 19-3 burst to pull within 41-39.

But Cleveland regrouped and, playing a turnover-free second quarter, led 62-48 at half.

James' legs looked fresh early on as he and Irving teamed up on a stunning alley-oop.

After he poked the ball away for a steal, James took off up the floor with Irving on the break. James pointed toward the backboard and Irving understood the message, bouncing a pass high off the glass that James grabbed and dunked with his left hand.

Deliberate Jazz try to slow down Warriors in 2nd round

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—The Utah Jazz had the slowest pace in the league during the regular season, while the push-it-at-every-chance Golden State Warriors were among the fastest as they tried to establish their tempo from the tip.

That clash of styles even showed up in the first round of the playoffs, as the Jazz needed a Game 7 to get past the Los Angeles Clippers. The Warriors dismantled Portland in a four-game sweep and haven't played since April 24, waiting to find out their opponent.

"I think we can play both styles. That's kind of their MO to slow the game down and try to make it a slugfest," Warriors forward Draymond Green said.

It became a big advantage as Kevin Durant, Stephen Curry and Co. got well-rested, healthy and ready for the next challenge in their championship chase: those upstart youngsters from Utah in Game 1 of the Western Conference semifinals Tuesday night.

"I don't mind that we're young and we're green," Jazz coach Quin Snyder said. "I just want us to be good. It's hard to be good against the Warriors but that's what we're up against."

The Jazz are the only team to beat Golden State in the last 20 contests, winning a mostly meaningless regular-season game on April 10 in Oakland.

Repeating that in the playoffs will be much harder but Utah knows what it must do: limit Golden State's chances in transition, make the Warriors work hard in the half court and find some way to score while grinding it out on the offensive end.

That's the formula the Jazz have used most of the season while allowing the fewest points and playing the fewest possessions in the NBA.

"For us, the pace with which we play has not been deliberate," Snyder said. "It's a deliberate way of playing. It's more of a function of our personnel."

Here are some things to watch in the series:

MISSING COACH: The Warriors are now prepared to push on without ailing head coach Steve Kerr perhaps for the remainder of the postseason.

The reigning NBA Coach of the Year is dealing with debilitating symptoms stemming from complications following two back surgeries two years ago after the team's 2015 championship run.

"The way we look at it, plan on him not to come back," Green said. "Mike Brown is our coach. We have the rest of our staff and that's what we're rolling with."

FOUL COUNT: The Jazz got very little out of perhaps their most important player in the first round. Rudy Gobert sprained his ankle early in Game 1 and missed the next two games. He then sprained his ankle again late in Game 6 before fouling out in only 13 minutes in Game 7.

Keeping Gobert on the court is paramount for the Jazz after he led the NBA in blocked shots with 2.6 per game in the regular season, while averaging 14 points and 12.8 rebounds.

"It's hard to figure out a plan for a guy not to foul out in 13 minutes in Game 7 of a playoff series," Snyder said. "He's got to be smart. He can't put himself in positons to pick up silly fouls."

LONG LAYOFF: Green figures it might take the Warriors a quarter or so to get clicking after not playing in so long.

"The break was good, but sheesh, long," Green said. "We were pretty banged up. That week break was good for us."

Durant should be fully healthy from a strained left calf that sidelined him the first three games against the Trail Blazers.

FAVORS' BACK: The Jazz wouldn't mind an extra day off mainly to get power forward Derrick Favors healthy. Favors missed practice Monday with a sore lower back and is questionable for Game 1. Favors is coming off one of his best performances of the season with 17 points and 11 rebounds in the Game 7 win over the Clippers.

NIGHT LIFE: Some of the Warriors players talked about wishing they were playing the Clippers instead of the Jazz, mostly for the chance to have some time off in Los Angeles rather than Salt Lake City.

Utah forward Joe Ingles has a solution for them.

"They can go to L.A. between the games if they want," Ingles said. "They have enough money to pay for the jet if they want and come back on game days. If they want the entertainment, they can drive to Vegas, too. I'll hire the car for them."

Hosmer, Bonifacio hit Royals back into form

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Eric Hosmer and Jorge Bonifacio hit two-run homers, and the Kansas City Royals snapped a nine-game losing streak with a 6-1 victory over the Chicago White Sox on Monday night.

Bonifacio homered with two outs in the fourth after Alex Gordon doubled. It was his second home run in eight games since being promoted April 21 from Triple-A Omaha.

Hosmer's two-out homer in the seventh inning with Christian Colon aboard finished the night for White Sox rookie starter Dylan Covey (0-2).

Salvador Perez's single in the fifth struck the third base bag and scored Alcides Escobar and Mike Moustakas with two outs.

Left-hander Jason Vargas (4-1) allowed one run on five hits and three walks over six innings to pick up the win. Vargas has a 1.42 ERA in five starts.

Peter Moylan, Joakim Soria and Scott Alexander worked three hitless innings, striking out five, after Vargas was removed after 96 pitches.

Covey was charged with six runs on nine hits in 6 2/3 innings, his longest major league outing.

Jacob May's ground-ball single in the fourth scored Todd Frazier with the lone White Sox run. May was hitting .030, 1 for 33, at the time.

White Sox reliever Michael Ynoa walked Bonifacio, and Brandon Moss and hit Escobar to load the bases with one out before Colon grounded into a double play.

AP

Chicago White Sox's Tyler Saladino warms up on deck during the first inning of a baseball game against the Kansas City Royals, Monday, May 1, 2017, in Kansas City, Mo.

Giants 4, Dodgers 3

In Los Johnny Cueto outpitched Clayton Kershaw as San Francisco ended Los Angeles' four-game winning streak.

The Giants entered with a National League-low 16 home runs but hit two against Kershaw — a two-run shot by Hunter Pence in the first inning and a solo drive by Buster Posey in the third.

Pence began the night batting .100 in his career against Kershaw without a home run.

Cueto (4-1) held the Dodgers to three runs and six hits in seven innings. Derek Law fanned Yasiel Puig to earn his first save.

Kershaw (4-2) went six innings, allowing four runs — three earned — and eight hits. He struck out five and had an RBI single.

Dodgers third baseman Justin Turner went 0 for 4, ending the longest hitting streak in the majors at 16 games. He lined out twice.

Astros 6, Rangers 2

In Houston, Jose Altuve, Carlos Correa and Yuli Gurriel each hit RBI doubles in a five-run seventh inning that lifted the Houston Astros over the Texas Rangers in a game that included a benches-clearing tussle.

Chris Devenski (2-1) struck out two in 1 2/3 scoreless innings for the win. Ken Giles pitched a scoreless ninth for his seventh save.

Andrew Cashner (0-3) had already plunked both Altuve and Gurriel when Lance McCullers Jr. threw behind Mike Napoli with two outs in the sixth. He took a couple of steps toward McCullers while yelling at him and McCullers did the same. Astros catcher Brian McCann quickly got in Napoli's face and, after a few seconds, players from both benches began spilling onto the field. Players from both teams did some pushing and shoving, and Springer held back McCullers as he continued to bark at Napoli.

Order was restored after a couple of minutes and both teams received warnings, but no one was ejected before play resumed and McCullers struck out Napoli.

Orioles 5, Red Sox 2

In Boston, Manny Machado slugged a long homer out of Fenway Park, drove in two runs and made three solid plays at third base in his first game against Boston since a dustup with the Red Sox just over a week ago, carrying the Baltimore Orioles to victory.

In the teams' last meeting at Camden Yards, reliever Matt Barnes sent a pitch that whizzed behind Machado's head and hit the slugger's bat. Barnes was suspended four games and fined. Machado had irked the Red Sox with a late slide into second baseman Dustin Pedroia's left leg two days earlier.

Dylan Bundy (4-1) took a shutout into the eighth inning, and Brad Brach got three outs for his fifth save.

Reigning AL Cy Young winner Rick Porcello (1-4) dropped his fourth consecutive start to match his total losses last season.

Phillies 10, Cubs 2

In Chicago, Tommy Joseph hit an early three-run homer, Aaron Altherr had three RBIs and Philadelphia routed Chicago.

Michael Saunders and Freddy Galvis also homered in support of starter Vince Velasquez (2-2) to help the Phillies stop a three-game losing streak.

The Cubs opened a seven-game homestand with their fourth loss in five games.

After rain delayed the start for 85 minutes, Philadelphia jumped on Brett Anderson (2-1) for seven runs and seven hits in 1 1/3 innings.

Javier Baez homered for the Cubs.

Mets 7, Braves 5

In Atlanta, Michael Conforto homered and drove in three runs, and the New York Mets scored five times in the fourth inning off Julio Teheran before holding out to beat the Atlanta Braves.

On the day the Mets placed ace Noah Syndergaard on the 10-day DL with a partial tear of his right lat muscle, Robert Gsellman (1-2) almost blew an early 6-1 lead. Gsellman allowed five runs in five-plus innings. Five Mets relievers combined for four scoreless innings. Jeurys Familia pitched the ninth for his second save.

Conforto led off the game with his seventh homer and added a two-run single in New York's five-run fourth off Teheran (2-2). With New York's lead down to 6-5, Jose Reyes added a homer off Ian Krol in the eighth.

Atlanta's Ender Inciarte hit his fifth homer to lead off the first.

Tigers 7, Indians 1

In Detroit, Tyler Collins hit a three-run homer and Daniel Norris gave up one run in six innings to help Detroit beat Cleveland.

Nicholas Castellanos and Victor Martinez hit RBI doubles on consecutive pitches in the first. Collins went deep in the second for a 5-0 lead, and Alex Avila added a two-run single in the fifth.

Norris (2-2) allowed five hits, including Edwin Encarnacion's RBI single, and struck out a season-high eight.

Trevor Bauer (2-3) gave up seven runs on seven hits and five walks in four-plus innings.

Blue Jays 7, Yankees 1

In New York, Ryan Goins hit a two-run sacrifice fly, the first in Toronto's 40-year history, to go along with a two-run homer that led Marco Estrada and the Blue Jays over New York for their season-high third straight win.

The crowd of 25,566 was the smallest for a Yankees home game since Sept. 20, 2004, against Toronto in a game moved to accommodate a makeup date. The current Yankee Stadium opened in 2009.

Jose Bautista hit a two-run homer for his 34th career shot off the Yankees, moving past Evan Longoria for most among active players. Chris Coghlan also homered for Toronto.

Still missing injured stars Josh Donaldson and Troy Tulowitzki, the Blue Jays kept up their success against the Yankees, beating them for the 11th time in the last 16 meetings and outscoring them 82-44 in that span.

Estrada (1-1) pitched seven fine innings. He gave up one run on seven hits without a walk.

Luis Severino (2-2) was hit hard and left in the sixth.

Rays 4, Marlins 2

In Miami, Jake Odorizzi returned from the disabled list to combine with four relievers on a four-hitter in Tampa Bay's victory over Miami.

Odorizzi made his first start since April 15 and allowed two hits and two runs, one earned, in five innings. He was activated before the game after recovering from a strained left hamstring.

Danny Farquhar (1-1) pitched a perfect sixth. Chris Whitley retired Christian Yelich with two on to end the eighth, and Alex Colome earned his sixth save with a 1-2-3 ninth.

The Rays' Corey Dickerson made a leaping grab before crashing into the left-field wall to rob Adeiny Hechavarria of an extra-base hit in the fifth, and a sliding catch of Giancarlo Stanton's sinking liner leading off the ninth.

Tim Beckham had a two-run double for the Rays, who improved to 4-10 on the road. They totaled only five hits, but Marlins pitchers issued eight walks.

Marcell Ozuna homered for the Marlins, who lost for the fifth time in six games.

The score was 3-all when Derek Norris started the seventh with a double off Brad Ziegler (1-1) and later came home from third when Kevin Kiermaier broke up a potential inning-ending double play by sliding hard into second base.

Brewers 7, Cardinals 5, 10 innings

In St. Louis, Travis Shaw and Jonathan Villar each hit a tape-measure home run to help Milwaukee beat St. Louis in 10 innings.

Shaw's three-run shot off the Cardinals' South Korean reliever Seung Hwan Oh (0-2) traveled an estimated 451 feet and broke a 4-all tie with two outs in the top of the 10th. Villar's two-run drive in the third soared 450 feet and gave the Brewers a 2-0 lead.

Jedd Gyorko hit two late homers for the Cardinals and finished with four hits. Aledmys Diaz and Matt Carpenter connected back-to-back in the fifth.

Oliver Drake (1-0) pitched a scoreless ninth and Neftali Feliz earned his seventh save.

Reds 4, Pirates 3, 10 innings

In Cincinnati, Billy Hamilton hit an RBI double in the 10th inning to lift Cincinnati over Pittsburgh.

Tucker Barnhart walked with one out in the 10th. Arismendy Alcantara pinch-ran for him and went to second on Daniel Hudson's (0-1) errant pickoff attempt.

After a groundout, Hamilton lined a double to right, giving the Reds consecutive wins for the first time since completing a four-game winning streak on April 12.

Michael Lorenzen (2-0) pitched two scoreless innings for the win.

Adam Duvall had a three-run home run for the Reds.

Josh Harrison homered twice and Andrew McCutchen also went deep for Pittsburgh.

Last pick of draft far from irrelevant: Kelly goes to Denver

PHILADELPHIA (AP)— The final day of the NFL draft began with an impromptu rendition of "Fly Eagles Fly" by former Philadelphia star safety Brian Dawkins and ended with a player who was far from irrelevant in college being picked last.

Mississippi quarterback Chad Kelly, a talented player with a history of off-the-field issues and injuries, was the 253rd and final selection Saturday by the Denver Broncos.

The final pick gets honored as Mr. Irrelevant, but Kelly was a player who could have been selected in the first three rounds if not for all his problems.

Kelly started his college career as a highly rated recruit at Clemson. He was dismissed from the team after being a disciplinary problem and went to junior college before landing at Ole Miss. In two seasons with the Rebels, he passed for 6,800 yards and 50 touchdowns. He also threw 21 interceptions,

Last season was cut short by a torn knee ligament and then in the offseason draft process he suffered a wrist injury.

Kelly's pick was a surprising end to draft day that started with some fun.

Former Eagles Troy Vincent, now in charge of the NFL's football operations, Brian Westbrook and Dawkins defended their turf. Dawkins sang, then Westbrook dared anyone representing the Cowboys to stand in front of the big crowd.

"If anybody from Dallas steps to this podium in my city, we are going to give them a true Philadelphia welcome," Westbrook promised in response to former Cowboys receiver Drew Pearson taunting the fans when announcing a Dallas pick on Friday night.

Oh yeah, there were some selections in between Dawkins and other former Eagles stars opening the last day of a draft in Philadelphia that drew more than 100,000 fans over three days.

Actually, dozens of them, starting with a Cheesehead going to the Packers at the top of the fourth round. Green Bay stayed in-state, taking Wisconsin linebacker Vince Biegel, who comes off a season shortened by a broken foot, but was a standout for the Badgers before getting hurt.

AP

Southern California's Adoree' Jackson, left, poses with NFL commissioner Roger Goodell after being selected by the Tennessee Titans during the first round of the 2017 NFL football draft, Thursday, April 27, 2017, in Philadelphia.

Most notable was a concentration on running backs, including Oklahoma's highly productive Samaje Perine to Washington, Utah's Joe Williams to San Francisco, NCAA record setter Donnel Pumphrey of San Diego State to Philadelphia, Wayne Gallman of national champion Clemson to the Giants and South Florida's Marlon Mack to Indianapolis.

Perine set the FBS rushing mark with 427 yards in a game against Kansas - yes, even against the awful Jayhawks it counts.

Williams quit football before the 2016 season before last season. When Utah was ravaged by injuries to its runners, the coaching staff persuaded him to come back. He made the All-Pac-12 team.

Pumphrey seems like a terrific fit for the Eagles because he has similar skills to versatile Darren Sproles, soon to turn 34. The 5-foot-9 Pumphrey led FBS in rushing with 2,133 yards and also scored 17 TDs, and he can catch, too. He left college as the FBS career leader in rushing yards.

"I look forward to building a relationship and looking up to him and getting different pointers on how I can get better each day," Pumphrey said of Sproles. "So, I'm excited."

Oklahoma's All-America wide receiver Dede Westbrook, who finished fourth in Heisman Trophy balloting, went to Jacksonville. Westbrook was twice accused of domestic violence before he came to Oklahoma as a junior college transfer.

"Obviously he's had some issues earlier in his career we feel that's behind him, and it has to be behind him," GM Dave Caldwell said. "... With coach (Doug) Marrone and ... (Tom) Coughlin here there's no margin for error for him off the field."

The Steelers, perhaps hoping to replicate the Cowboys' success with the 135th overall slot last year - Dallas took Dak Prescott, and the Mississippi State quarterback became the Offensive Rookie of the Year —grabbed another Southeastern Conference quarterback, Tennessee's Joshua Dobbs, at that spot. Ben Roethlisberger has hinted about retiring in the near future, though certainly not this year, and Pittsburgh must put a succession plan in place.

SSFM

From Page 28

the game. *Marianas Variety* then ended its silence in the ensuing play when Angelo Factor faked off the defense of Barcinas and canned a triple, 66-71.

Palino tried to counter and overshot his mark, while Ivan Devero pulled up from downtown and missed, but was fouled, giving *Marianas Variety* a chance to move closer. However, Devero went only 1-for-3 from the stripe, missing his first free throw and canning the second before getting caught stepping on the line after releasing his third shot.

SSFM got the possession back after Devero's violation and sued for time before going for the inbound play. When the game resumed, *Marianas Variety* was forced to give up a foul on Tony Raho, who split his charities to make it a two possession game, 72-65, down to the last 7 seconds in the match.

The scores did not change as Factor missed a corner triple at the buzzer.

Three SSFM players broke into double figures in their win against *Marianas Variety* with Andrew Ashburn leading the way with his 19 points. Barcinas chipped in 16, while Palino added 10.

Ashburn also anchored SSFM's offense in their 103-40 demolition of 5 Star Construction last Saturday. The shooting forward sizzled for 26 points and drew a lot of help from his teammates to maul 5 Star Construction. Nathan Kapileo contributed 19, Edong Echaves and Palino had 14 apiece, while Barcinas and Gino Libuw logged 12 and 10, respectively.

SSFM built a double-digit lead early, 22-6, behind the 8 first-quarter points of Ashburn and by the end of the third period, the eventual winning team was miles ahead, more than doubling 5 Star Construction's output, 74-31.

Monday Game

SSFM 72 – Ashburn 19, Barcinas 16, Palino 10, Lester 8, Libuw 8, Raho 4, Santos 4, Echavez 3.

Marianas Variety 67 – A. Factor 19, Devero 18, Standish 17, Manibusan 6, Younis 3, Babauta 3, Supetran 1.

Scoring by quarters: 17-12, 30-34, 54-49, 72-67.

Saturday Game

SSFM 103 – Ashburn 26, Kapileo 19, Echavez 14, Palino 14, Barcinas 12, Libuw 10, Daniel 6, Santos 2.

5 Star Construction 40 – Galang 10, Guinto 9, Tiano 7, Pino 5, Boltron 5, Castillo 4.

Scoring by quarters: 22-6, 46-17, 74-31, 103-40.

PLUNKETT

From Page 28

pleted the bike leg about seven minutes ahead of the former after timing in at 1:19:09 for a nearly five-minute lead against the Saipan bet, heading into the last part of the race. Recupero then slid to second place as he checked in at 1:12:54 in the run leg.

Antonio was the fastest in the run leg, as he was the lone triathlete in his age group to finish the 10K less than one hour. His 58:36 in the last phase of the race brought him to the podium. Antonio posted split times of 41:46 and 1:26:53 in the swim and bike legs for a total time of 3:07.16, or just less than two minutes behind the second-ranked Recupero, who registered 3:05:43.

Japanese Ryosuke Maeda was the overall top finisher in the Olympic distance race after clocking in at 1:53:59, while Hong Kong's Hilda Choi ruled the women's division after recording 2:10:02.

Meanwhile, Saipan Swim Club's Christian Villacrusis joined the sprint race in the same competition last Saturday.

He finished fourth out of the 20 entries in the men's 16 to 19 age group after completing the 1K swim race, 20K bike, and 5K run in 1:20:30. Villacrusis' split times were unavailable at the tournament's website.

The weekend competition in Subic was sanctioned by the International Triathlon Union and the Asian Triathlon Confederation and organized by the Triathlon Association of the Philippines. Triathlon Association of the CNMI helped Villacrusis, Plunkett, and Antonio join the annual tournament that drew nearly 300 participants across Asia.

ENFORCERS

From Page 28

forcers made their move in the fourth inning to wrestle back the lead, 9-8.

The Ol'Aces countered with only one run at the bottom of the fourth inning and fell short in its bid to reclaim the upper hand and with the Enforcers getting three more runs in the fifth inning, it was the former's turn to launch a comeback.

The Ol'Aces stared at a 10-14 deficit, going into the last inning threatened the Enforcers when Shane Mendiola and Ken Kaipat stole home with only one out, 12-14. The Ol'Aces were then called for the second out when Jonathan Santos, who relieved Justin Agulto, struck out Kianna Aldan. Santos continued to work the mound for the Enforcers and walked Fleming, who later stole second and eventually reached off a passed ball from Rabauliman, who closed out for the Enforcers.

Fleming's run moved the Ol'Aces within one, but that also served as the team's last run as Rabauliman redeemed himself in the next play by fanning out Treven Lizama.

Meanwhile, in the second game in the Junior League last Saturday, the Comets edged the Falcons, 4-1.

Pitchers Reid Teregeyo, Bing Nakamura, and Sab Saures combined for a three-hitter to lift the Comets to the victory in the low-scoring match.

Teregeyo also scored two of the Comets' four runs with his first at the top of the opening inning courtesy of Saures' RBI single and the second from Nakamura's sacrifice out. Nakamura and Saures made the two other runs for the Comets with the latter's single driving the former home. Saures, on the other hand, reached off A.J. Sanchez's single.

The Falcons got their lone run from Jericho Jones, who advanced to first off the Comets' error and then stole second and third before reaching home off a passed ball. The Falcons had a chance to score more in that inning with the bases loaded, however Teregeyo struck out Isaiah Teigita for the last out.

The Falcons never made it past the second base in the next four innings with Teregeyo still on the mound and was just replaced by Saures late in the sixth.

Saures started his shift by fanning out Martin Agulto to end the inning and the Comets moved one out away from wrapping up the match after booting out the Falcons' first two batters off 5-3 and 1-3 putout plays. The Falcons, however, stayed alive as Nixon Smith managed to run safely to first and eventually reached thid, while Jacoby Chaufaros walked.

With runners on third and first, Nakamura relieved Saures and helped the Comets get the last out as he picked up a short shot from Zach Reyes and threw the ball to first baseman Justin Magofna.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	16	8	.667	—
New York	15	9	.625	1
Boston	13	12	.520	3½
Tampa Bay	13	14	.481	4½
Toronto	9	17	.346	8

Central Division

Cleveland	14	11	.560	—
Chicago	13	11	.542	½
Minnesota	12	11	.522	1
Detroit	13	12	.520	1
Kansas City	8	16	.333	5½

West Division

Houston	17	9	.654	—
Los Angeles	14	13	.519	3½
Oakland	11	14	.440	5½
Seattle	11	15	.423	6
Texas	11	15	.423	6

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	17	8	.680	—
Philadelphia	12	12	.500	4½
Miami	11	13	.458	5½
New York	11	14	.440	6
Atlanta	10	14	.417	6½

Central Division

Chicago	13	12	.520	—
Milwaukee	14	13	.519	—
Cincinnati	12	13	.480	1
St. Louis	12	13	.480	1
Pittsburgh	11	14	.440	2

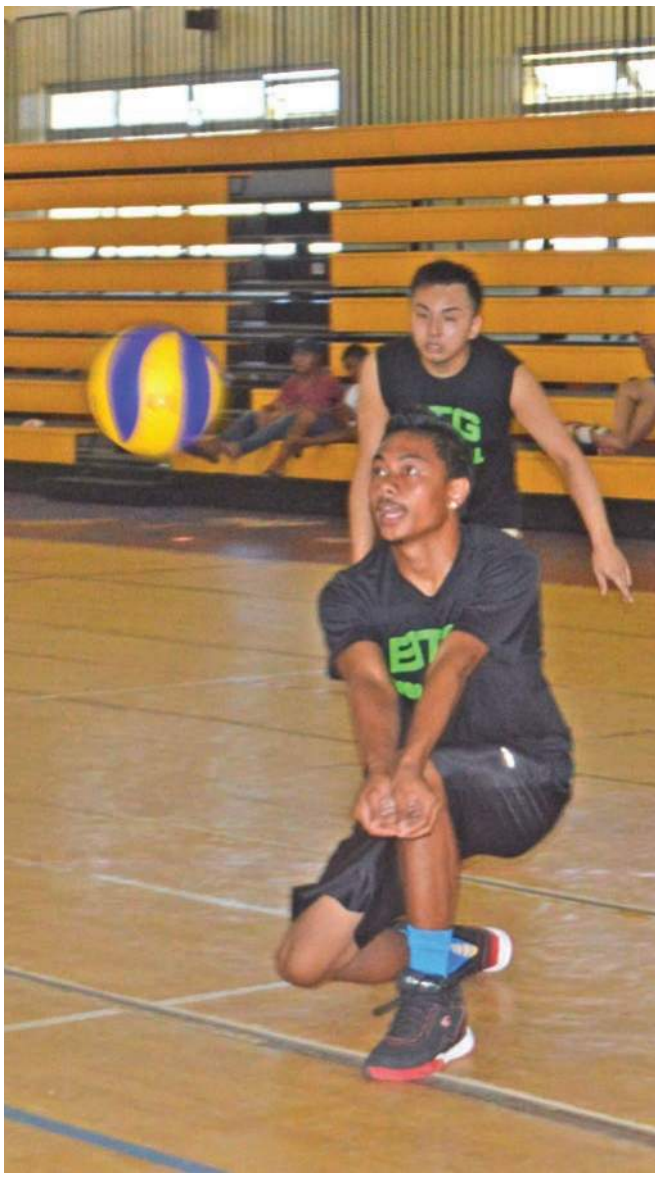
West Division

Colorado	16	10	.615	—
Arizona	16	11	.593	½
Los Angeles	14	13	.519	2½
San Diego	11	16	.407	5½
San Francisco	10	17	.370	6½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2017 MBC Fundraising Volleyball Tournament

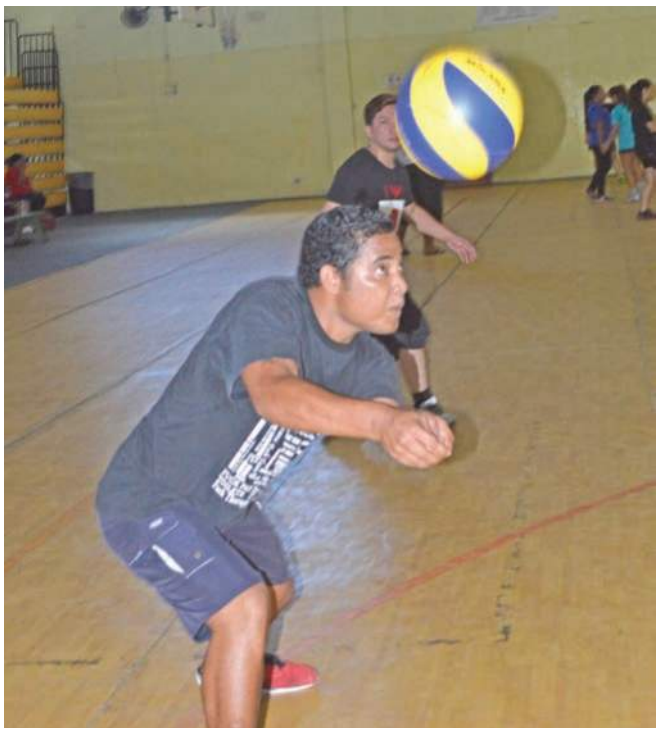
PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



A BTG player bends down to receive a serve from Holy Sett during their game in the 2017 Micronesian Baseball Classic Fundraising Volleyball Tournament last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

A Holy Sett player goes for an overhand serve.

Holy Sett's Nak Nakashima makes a return to BTG.

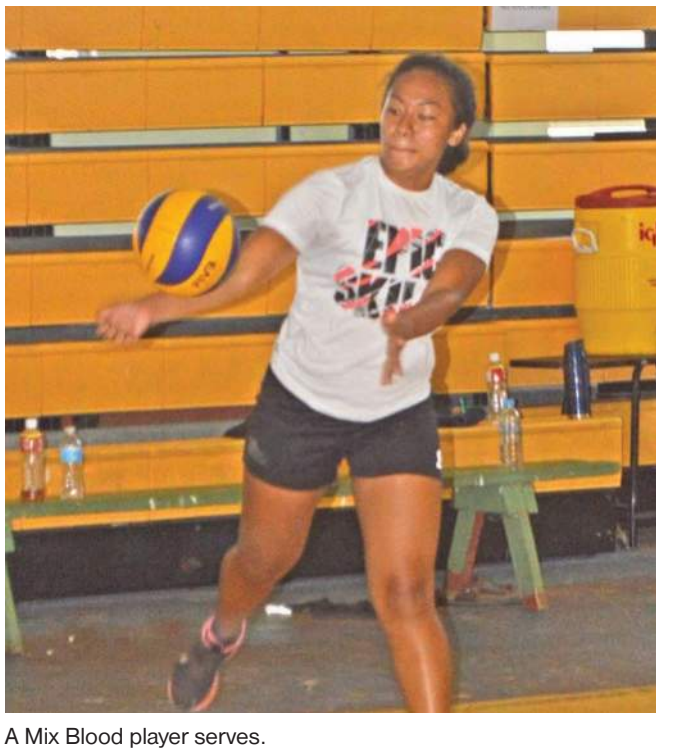


A Holy Set player steps sideways to hit the ball.

Holy Sett's Jeff Riman leaps for a hit.

A BTG player spikes the ball, while Holy Set's Jeff Riman attempts to block it.

An All About That Ace player bends down and waits for the ball, while her teammates look on.



A Mix Blood player serves.

Rockets' 22 3-pointers dismantle Spurs, 126-99 in Game 1

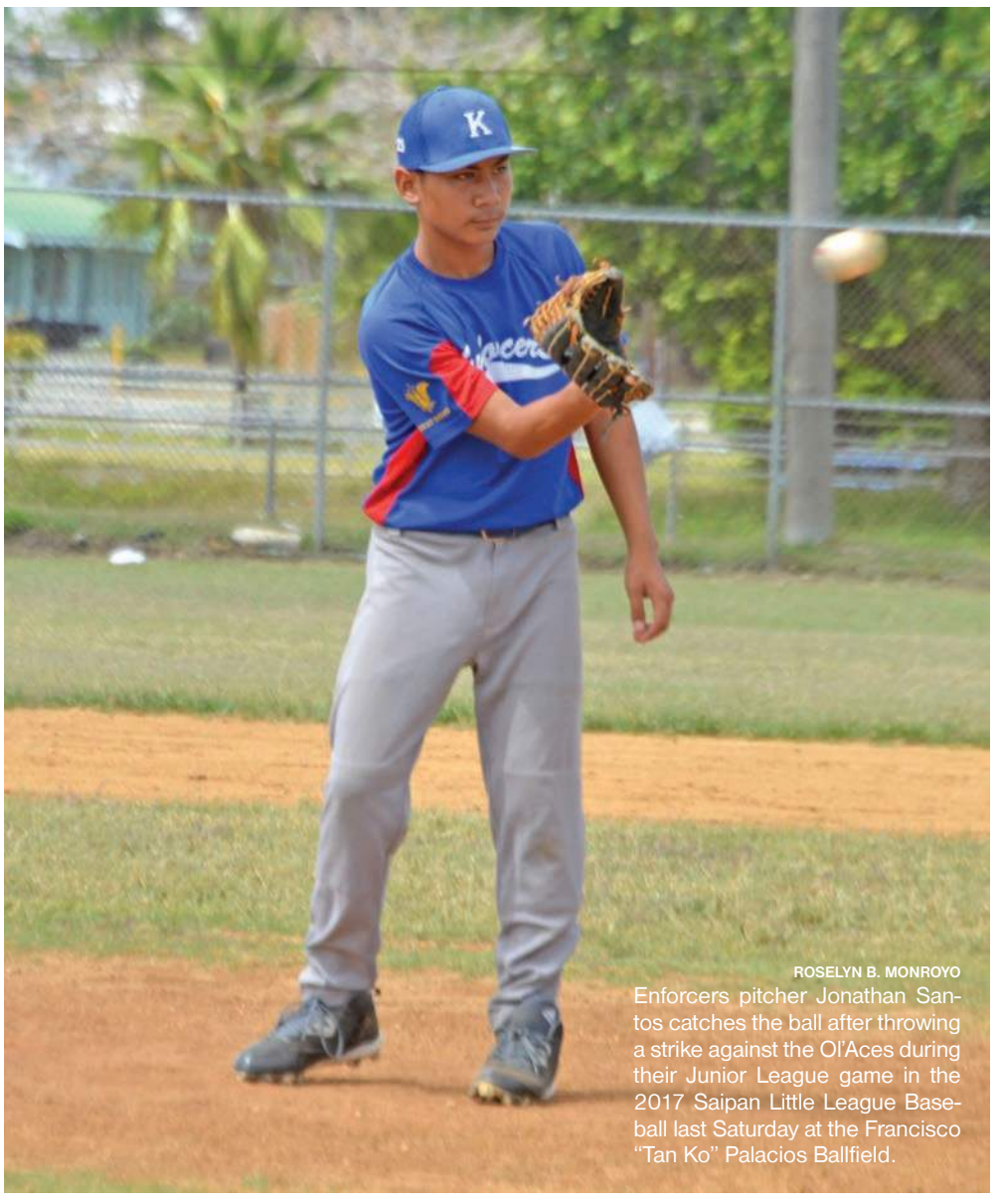
PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Hosmer, Bonifacio hit Royals back into form

PAGE 25

Enforcers nip Ol'Aces in Junior League



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Enforcers pitcher Jonathan Santos catches the ball after throwing a strike against the Ol'Aces during their Junior League game in the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Enforcers eked out a 14-13 victory over the Ol'Aces in their Junior League division game in the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Enforcers worked their way back from a 3-7 deficit and then survived the Ol'Aces' late rally to pull off the close win.

A six-run top of the fourth inning allowed the Enforcers to grab the lead from the Ol'Aces, 9-8. The Enforcers scored two runs off passed balls and one each off the Ol'Aces' error and wild pitch. The two other runs were off a stolen base and an RBI from Jayart Palmes.

The Enforcers' surge in the fourth inning came after the squad was held to one run apiece in the first three innings. Sean Rabauliman had an RBI single each in the first and third inning, while Minko Taimanao reached off an error in the second inning.

While the Enforcers struggled early, the Ol'Aces got off to a good start as Henry Fleming and Treven Lizama hit back-to-back RBIs at the bottom of the first inning. The Ol'Aces then collected five more runs in the second inning, capitalizing on their opponent's errors to gain more cushion, 7-3, before the En-

See ENFORCERS on Page 26

Plunkett rules race; Antonio ranks second

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two triathletes from Saipan made it to the podium in the age group competitions in the 24th NTT-ASTC Subic Bay International Triathlon held over the weekend at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone in the Philippines.

Paul Plunkett topped the men's 55 to 59 division, besting six other participants, while Florence Antonio joined the same age group and finished third in last Sunday's race. Plunkett completed the 1.5K swim, 40K bike 10K run event in 3:00:19, reaching the finish line more than five minutes ahead of his closest rival.

The division champion clocked in at 31:22 in the swim leg held in the waters off ACEA Beach Resort and was the fastest in the two-lap race. In the bike leg, which took place around the freeport zone, Plunkeet submitted 1:26:43—the second best time in the age group. For the run leg that concluded at the Remy Field oval, the Saipan triathlete recorded the second best time at 1:00:34.

Plunkett's mark in the run leg allowed him to overtake Dean Recupero, who com-

See PLUNKETT on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Florence Antonio, left, and Paul Plunkett pose for a photo at the finish line of the 24th NTT-ASTC Subic Bay International Triathlon held over the weekend at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone in the Philippines.

SSFM delivers in homestretch, tops *MV*

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
SSFM's Dan Barcinas, right, pulls up for a running jumper and draws a foul from *Marianas Variety's* Alex Standish during the closing minutes of their game in the San Antonio summer caging last Monday at the San Antonio court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

SSFM played steadier in the closing minutes of its game against *Mariana Variety* to earn a 72-67 victory in the curtain-raiser in the 2017 San Antonio Summer Basketball League last Monday at the San Antonio court.

SSFM entered the last two minutes of the match down by a deuce, 61-63, and ended up taking the 5-point win after holding *Marianas Variety* to one field goal in the homestretch.

Dan Barcinas delivered the clutch baskets for SSFM, scoring 6 straight points off back-to-back and-1 plays. His first 3-point play gave SSFM the lead, 66-63, and came after a pair of free throws from Andrew Palino tied the match. Barcinas then converted a running jumper off a missed shot from *Marianas Variety* on the other end and also drew a foul on Alex Standish. The former Mt. Carmel School standout completed the 3-point play to extend SSFM's lead, 69-63.

Another botched attempt from *Marianas Variety* returned possession to SSFM and Palino made a layup to up their advantage to 8, 71-63, with 32 seconds left in

See SSFM on Page 26